



Student Jessica Clark uses the new crosswalk that connects the library to Chick-fil-A. Photo by Leanna Coy.

## Chick-fil-A crosswalk helps ensure student safety

Leanna Coy  
News Editor

Walking to Chick-fil-A from campus will now be safer for students thanks to the addition of a crosswalk between the restaurant and Watson Memorial Library.

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, NSU and the NSU Foundation worked together to develop the crosswalk.

The crosswalk includes two rapid flashing beacons that pedestrians can activate with the push of a button.

Erin Buchanan, public information officer for the Department of Transportation and Development, said pedestrians need to be aware that they should be using the beacons when they are ready to cross the street. This is so that drivers will more easily be able to see them.

"We would like to remind pedestrians that they need to utilize the button," Buchanan said.

To prevent unnecessary congestion, Buchanan said motorists should be reminded that although they should be driving with caution through the area, they only need to stop if someone is waiting to cross.

Aside from construction on the crosswalk itself, there have also been significant changes to the library's parking lot.

Jennifer Kelly, assistant to the provost for academic support and auxiliary services, said the entrance and exit to the parking lot have flipped. Now, vehicles will enter across from the NSU Marketplace and exit across from North Street. This will change the flow of traffic in order to make it safer for pedestrians.

However, since the entrance and exit are backwards from what they were before, drivers should be cautious and make sure they are turning in the correct spots.

Jessica Clark, sophomore, said she believes the crosswalk was necessary because she used to feel unsafe walking to Chick-fil-A.

The crosswalk was finished just in time for the first week of classes.

## New on-campus leadership society



Mekayla Jenkins  
Photo Editor

NSU's chapter of the National Society of Leadership and Success began in 2018, and an email offering students an invitation of membership is legitimate.

During the summer, some students received invitations to join The National Society of Leadership and Success.

Although the National Society of Leadership and Success is a legitimate organization, it was unfamiliar to some of the students who were offered membership. As a result, some potential members questioned whether the club was a scam.

The National Society of Leadership and Success is a real honor society brought onto campus by Denae Landry, the chapter's president. Landry said she started the organization because it offered so many benefits for students.

"It was one of the organizations that wasn't solely based on your GPA, and I love that," Landry said. "I feel like every person has something valuable to offer, and my job in doing this is helping them discover that through setting goals and helping them find their true passion."

According to the organization's website, the National Society of Leadership and Success was founded on the core beliefs that

"one can achieve one's dreams with the proper support and dedicated action, and that we accomplish more together than we would achieve alone."

Many of the people inducted into this society have gone on to become CEOs, politicians, and all-around powerful individuals today. Celebrities like Emmy award-winning weatherman Al Roker, CNN anchor Anderson Cooper and Grammy award-winning hip-hop artist Common all have one thing in common: National Society of Leadership and Success.

Gary Tuerack founded this society because he believed in creating long-lasting positive change, which Landry is carrying on.

An email from this society is not spam but an opportunity. Invitations were sent out to invite NSU's finest to get involved and collect all the benefits and opportunities offered through this fresh organization.

Some of the benefits of joining include the opportunity for scholarships and a résumé builder. The cost to join is \$95 and is due Sept. 4, 2019. The cost is a way to help members be able to participate and expand their resources.

The National Society of Leadership and Success is made up of diverse students from every department in hopes of keeping a long-lasting and supportive environment at NSU.

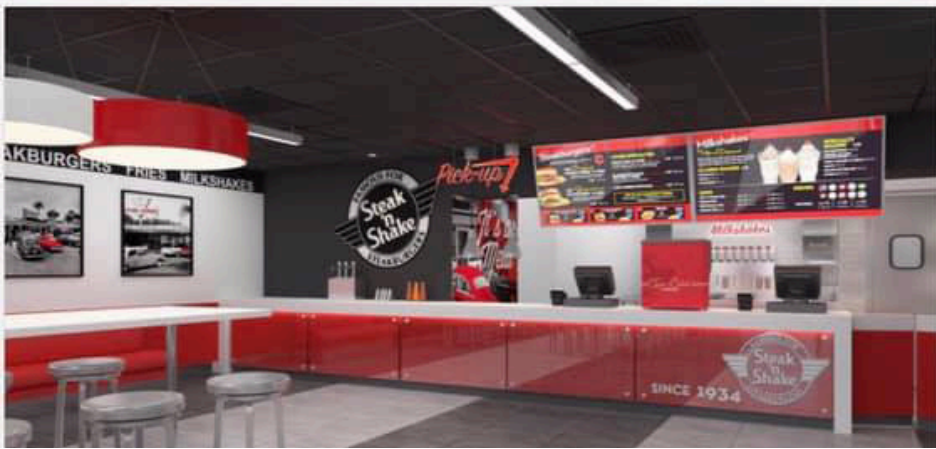
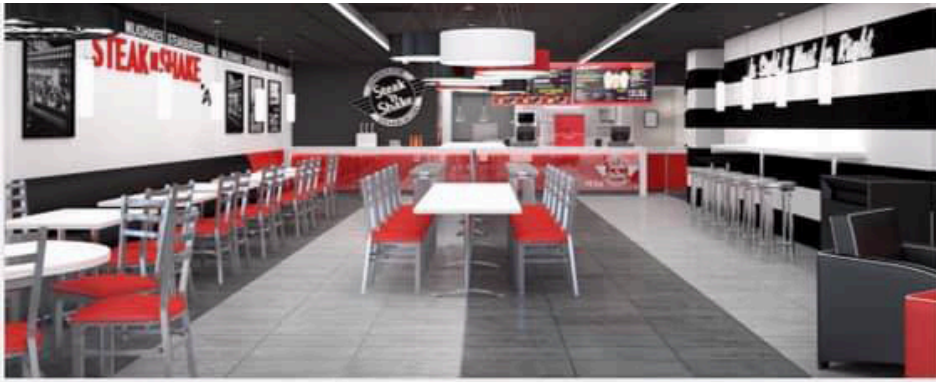
If someone has received an invitation to this society, go to [www.nsls.net](http://www.nsls.net) for more information.

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Conceptual art of the Steak 'N Shake. Submitted Photo.

# Steak 'N Shake nears completion

**Keator Poleman**  
Reporter

As the academic year begins, construction remains ongoing on the new Steak 'N Shake but is expected to open before midterms.

Jennifer Kelly, assistant to the provost for academic support and auxiliary services, said the space is projected to open near the end of September or early October. Reconstruction of the area began in the summer and is set for completion during this semester.

The restaurant will replace The Grill in its former space on the first floor of the Friedman Student Union.

Like other eateries on campus, the new restaurant will accept students' declining balance and SOGO cards as well as cash and credit cards.

Kelly said the university chose Steak 'N Shake to replace The Grill because they wanted to have "a name brand that was not already in town that offered a variety of items with price points that are affordable for the students and the community."

Sophomore Avery Tibbets said she is excited about the new restaurant. She said the Steak 'N Shake will be a revamp on The Grill.

Kelly said as of now there are no plans to add other restaurants in the near future.

## IncludED makes its mark at NSU

**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter



This year, NSU implemented IncludED, a textbook program designed to save students money and increase student success in the classroom by making the required materials available on day one.

Dr. Greg Handel, the provost and vice president of academic & student affairs, said that NSU is not the only university to implement big changes with textbooks this year.

"About a year ago, the University of Louisiana System charged all campuses in the system, so nine universities, with the task of reducing textbook and course material costs for students," Handel said.

Handel said that starting last September, all NSU department heads worked together with the previous provost, Dr. Vickie Gentry, and assistant to the provost academic support and auxiliary services Jennifer Kelly, to look at over 200 textbooks to find where students could save the most on course materials.

The average student saved 62% on textbooks for 132 different classes. One example of some serious savings is Financial Accounting. Previously, a new print textbook would cost a student \$393.25. The new price for fall 2019 with IncludED is only \$60.

NSU was able to snag such significant discounts is by adding the textbook cost to the course fee, ensuring that all students in the class purchase the textbook unless they opt out of the program entirely.

Despite the lofty goals of the program, the implementation has hit a few snags.

Automatically being included

in the program has led to a few complaints from students who might not have purchased the required book from the bookstore including junior Antanae' Baylock.

"I opted out because only one of my books was included, and I found it much cheaper on Amazon," Baylock said.

Senior Sidnie Spinks opted out for similar circumstances. She saved over \$40 on one book by buying through Amazon.

Students were also confused with the sudden appearance of new charges on their bills, and they flooded the student concerns page with questions and attempting to opt out of IncludED.

Some classes have yet to receive their materials, either due to the bookstore not having the physical copies or technical difficulties with the digital copies.

Dr. Jim Mischler, head of the department of English, foreign languages, and cultural studies, found this to be the case in some of his classes because many students have yet to obtain access to print or digital textbooks.

Other students and professors reported similar issues, attributing them to how new the program is. Mischler is confident that these issues will be swiftly resolved and that the program will be very successful for several years to come once any initial issues are resolved.

Other students seem happy with the program so far, especially with the reduced out-of-pocket expenses.

"Being a student myself, I know what an obstacle expensive textbooks and materials can be," Jacob Ellis, SGA president, said. "This program is going to really help alleviate some of the burdens on students by saving them money."

Handel said the administration hopes that the success of this program will lead to even more textbooks being added to the IncludED program and that one day there could even be a flat rate for all textbooks, allowing students to know exactly how much their materials will cost even before registering for classes.

To figure out textbooks savings for this year, check out [www.nsula.edu/auxiliary/included](http://www.nsula.edu/auxiliary/included) for a complete list of book prices and their previous costs.



# The Spirit of Northwestern sports its largest member count in history



**Spirit of Northwestern rehearsing at the practice field.** Photo by Brianna Fife.

**Ali Robichaux**  
Contributing Writer

The Spirit of Northwestern, known as the best sounding band in the land, acquired a record-breaking 342 members for the 2019-2020 season.

With so many students in the program, there are difficult and rewarding facets. Some challenges include watching over a multitude of students, controlling instrument inventory, uniforms, travel and scholarships.

Director of Bands Dr. Jeff Mathews said the most rewarding part is looking out onto the field and seeing 342 performers.

"It's a great feeling to have that many students arrive on campus that are participating in the band program," Mathews said.

He also states the alumni-based supporters and additional band directors in the surrounding regions have helped with the recruiting process. Dr. Mathews, Dr. Daniel McDonald and Dr. Oliver Molina came together in a team effort to recruit the tremendous number of new students.

The Spirit of Northwestern was not always this large. Senior tubist Gustavo Corrales said as an incoming freshman his class was not nearly as massive, but this year, all the new faces come together with a larger sound and more improved band.

To be a part of the largest group in history The Spirit of Northwestern has ever seen is remarkable. For freshman tubist Manny Barnes, it is "empowering" being involved in this historical experience.

Band members and Mathews

agree that the atmosphere of the Spirit of Northwestern is very positive and family-oriented.

Corrales said whether away or at Turpin Stadium, the band has one goal: to perform and be the best musicians on the field. There is a comradery among all members regardless of major, which is very imperative for the university.

For those thinking about joining The Spirit of Northwestern in the future, there are a few things to keep in mind. For Barnes, some advantages include learning the campus before others step foot on the university, meeting new people and making new friends.

Corrales said it is time well spent, and anyone that is interested in being a part of the program would enjoy themselves, especially because of the music and friend-making aspects.



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic! I'm new here, so you probably don't know me. I hear you give good advice. Are there any tips that you can give me to help me ease into life here at NSU and to get over this homesickness?

**A** NSU is a great place! Here are some tips that should get you through your first semester!

- Get involved! There are many organizations on campus that are always seeking new members! The more involved you are, the more friends you make!
- Friends make this transition easier! You don't have to do anything alone! NSU is one big family when you're away from your own.
- Try new things this in college. College is all about exploring new things to discover what makes you, you!
- Get acquainted with all of your professors. Rather be the teacher's pet than to fail because you were afraid to ask for help!
- Last but not least, have fun! Business always comes first, but take breaks to wind down.

College isn't meant to be stressful 24/7. NSU gives you a quality education while also providing you with an atmosphere to be successful.

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



**Spirit of Northwestern rehearsing the Alma Matter.** Photo by Brianna Fife.



# Wind symphony took center stage at world conference



**Spirit of Northwestern performing in Spain.** Photo by Brianna Fife.

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Northwestern State University's Wind Symphony was one of the seven bands selected to perform at the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles conference in Buñol, Spain July 10-13.

This conference is an annual event where prestigious bands throughout the globe are selected to represent both their school and country in a rigorous display of musical talent.

Director of Bands Dr. Jeff Matthews said it was pretty intense

performing for such a niche audience.

"You know going in the audience are very well-educated in what we're doing," Matthews said. "They understand the craft of making music. Most of them are directors or musicians themselves."

The band only had one semester to prepare, workshopping pieces for concerts in the spring to be perfected for their later performance and only returning a week before departing to Buñol for final touches.

The hard work, however, paid off.

"When we finished our concert, within a few minutes everyone was on their feet, which is not something normal in Europe," Matthews said. "When the applause is really warm

you know it, and I think all of us felt it on the stage."

The process of being chosen to be among the ensemble to perform was one of meticulous practice for Northwestern State University's music students, who had to audition.

Paris Finkbeiner, sophomore oboe and English horn player, noted the incredible excitement and terror that came with being offered the opportunity. The happiness coming from the possible experience, and the fear coming from how it was to be paid for.

Fortunately, all fees and financial burdens were eliminated as the university covered the experience in full.

"It made it feel more like a vacation where we just happened to

go play amazing music at the same time," Finkbeiner said. "We were able to represent our university and our country and the way our cultures interacted was really fun."

The impact of Northwestern State's Wind Symphony and international light it offered to not only the music department but the university as a whole was particularly noted by senior flute player Darian Thompkins.

"Being there and being amongst different musicians when around the world we aren't very known was as a great opportunity to show our face and to represent our university," Thompkins said. "We sent out the message that Northwestern State exists, and we made a humungous dent in the music community."

## CAPA FALL 2019

### Our Country's Good Theater West

7:30 p.m. Sept. 25-28, Oct. 2-5  
2 p.m. Spet. 29

### Songs for a New World Theater West

7:30 p.m. Nov. 6-9, Nov. 13-16  
2 p.m. Nov. 10

Go to

[capa.nsula.edu/theatre/season-tickets/](http://capa.nsula.edu/theatre/season-tickets/)  
for more information



# Letter from the editor



**Editor in Chief Samantha Clark with Sara Haines from Good Morning America.** *Submitted photo.*

**Samantha Clark**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

To incoming students, welcome back to NSU. To incoming freshmen, welcome to college.

College is the time of your life.

You're in this weird limbo of having post-high school freedom while not quite being an actual adult yet. It's great.

Yet while you meet those life-long friends, fall in love and find who you truly are, it doesn't come without hardships.

You'll fail along the way, and sometimes you'll fail hard. You'll make the wrong decisions. You'll possibly hurt people you care about, even if it's unintentional.

You won't always be the perfect friend. The perfect partner. The perfect student.

I can personally attest that I've failed hard and been the antagonist in the people I love's stories.

While sometimes I replay what life would be like now if I hadn't made those mistakes, I don't regret most of them.

Every mistake you make in life, not just college, will help you grow and learn who you truly are.

I lost my best friend because of selfishness, and even through apologies and forgiveness our friendship isn't the same. It taught me that putting yourself first is good when it's about making choices with purpose and a deeper, higher meaning in mind but not when it comes to relationships.

I was blindsided when I lost the first guy I thought I loved, even though I watched him treat me worse with every day that passed. It taught me to know my worth and

never settle.

When I was a pre-med major, it made me question what I wanted. The one thing that was certain, my future career, was now ambiguous. That's when I changed my major to communications. It taught me to take a leap of faith when I didn't know what was on the other side.

All these failures were hard in the moment, but they've also led to self-discovery and success.

While I do miss my friend dearly, I've learned to be a better friend to the ones I do have. I know the difference between positive and negative selfishness and aim to balance my relationships.

Now I have Derek, the man of my dreams who shows me every day how much he loves me and what authentic love is. I did not expect him to walk into my life, but I thank God every day that he did. He means the world to me.

And changing my major to communications has led to the greatest payoff of all. It led me here: being your editor-in-chief. Now I know the path I want after college and what I'm passionate about, which is a complete 180 from what I thought I wanted when I was 18.

This isn't meant to be discouraging. It's meant to be real. You don't see the hardships on Instagram and other social media platforms, and it can lead to the feeling of isolation when they happen.

A rose garden comes with thorns. The thing is, the sweetness of a rose outweighs the pain of a thorn.

I love that I am now the editor in chief of this newspaper. And I hope that I make you all proud.

Take a leap of faith, and Fork'Em Demons.

# Demon Debates

## Spider-Man: Sony or Marvel?

**Anson Ballow**  
*Sports Editor*

Spider-Man made his Marvel comic debut in 1962 and has since been considered one of the most popular and iconic comic book characters of all time.

Through the 80s and 90s, Marvel sold various licensing copyrights of characters to different production companies in order to stay afloat.

Following the organization and subsequent global success of the Marvel Cinematic Universe, Sony remains the production company with the sole rights to Peter Parker. Sony has made a few ventures into solo Spider-Man films, but they have been met with varying public opinion and sup-par box office performance.

Following the performance of "Spider-Man: Far From Home," Sony feels confident in its ability to continue the success of its solo superhero. However, the success of Tom Holland's Spider-Man is largely due to its incorporation into the now-familiar Marvel world that dominates the global box office.

Coupled with the resources of Marvel Studios and its accompanying heroes, as well as the loaning of

MCU super-producer Kevin Feige to Sony, Disney and Marvel Studios feel they are entitled to more than the 5% earnings/merchandising rights they originally agreed to.

Marvel Studios traditionally slates three movies per year, and continuing to allot these resources to Sony for such a minimum profit cuts into the potential earnings if they only released movies they've solely produced.

The studios are applying completely different value equations to the Spider-Man movie rights. That is why it has been, and may continue to be, difficult for them to find a place to meet in the middle.

It's not about greed or pride, at least not entirely. It's about executives wanting, as they should, to get a deal that works for their business.

Disney has been called greedy for wanting more than it previously received for the Spider-Man movies, but it is not greedy to want more than 5% of the profits when Marvel Studios is doing more than 5% of the work on the global success of the franchise.

Sony is fighting for its life in an era of entertainment consolidation, and splitting profits on the studios biggest franchise hero is not in their best interest.

**Brianna Corley**  
*Arts and Living Editor*

cut after realizing the massive profit Spider-Man movies acquired stands as a testament to the corporation's incredible greed.

Disney has consumed numerous companies throughout the film industry in recent years, leaving Sony as one of the few independent studios outside its newly formed mega-movie business.

Disney's tactics of consuming all competition is horrendous for the world of film and acts as an aid in killing the creative job market. Disney is entirely in the wrong particularly when considering this deal solely stood for exclusively Spider-Man movies.

Disney holds the absolute freedom to use Spider-Man in any other varying Marvel property while retaining 100% profits from said movie the character appears in, such as sensational box office success "Avengers: Endgame," and still is not content.

Sony has managed to stand its ground against both Disney and the incredible social media backlash received from the possible pulling of Spider-Man from the MCU.

Regardless of what the future and possible renegotiations may hold, that is a feat which is truly spectacular.

Spider-Man is Sony's largest movie property. The deal made, ensuring Disney received 5% of first-dollar gross and all merchandising profit, was one to assure income for jobs and funds towards other varying projects.

While Spider-Man was created under the premise of Marvel and is most associated with the company, Sony has owned the exclusive rights to the character for what is nearing two decades.

Whether Marvel initially created the webslinger or not is a useless stance of debate as the rights ultimately belong to solely Sony. When the initial contract was signed, Sony allowed Disney to integrate Spider-Man into the Marvel Cinematic Universe and put up 100% of production costs.

With this considered, Disney's proposal to entirely re-write their earliest agreement to one of a 50/50



# NSYou

What are you most excited about at NSU?



"Greek life."

Aniyah Major  
Psychology



"Having the freedom to do whatever I want whenever I want."

Allison Darty  
Communications



"Meeting people."

Derek Sarnis  
Communications



"Joining organizations and making new friends."

Nia Berry  
Communications

# How to survive the first 42 days at NSU



Kailley Fontenot and Mickayla Love at Color Chaos. Photo by Brianna Fife.

Trinity Velazquez  
Viewpoints Editor

My fellow fresh-eyed Demons: the next few weeks will be the craziest moments of your young lives.

By now you have already experienced Move-In Day, Color Chaos and your first week of classes, and I hope you have mentally prepared yourself to get through those long seminars for

UNIV 1000.

As I mentally prepare myself to find textbooks for as cheap as possible, I figured I could give you some tips and cheat codes to get you through your first official set of Demon Days, the first 42.

First thing all freshman need to know is that there are lots of ways to get free stuff on campus. I'm sure you have heard the phrase "free is a college student's favorite word."

The Student Government Association office, located on first floor of the Friedman Student Union, and Watson Memorial Library give away free scantrons.

You can get free t-shirts and NSU-related prizes by just showing up to events. The number of free shirts I got my freshman and sophomore year is so insane that I have a full drawer in my dresser just for purple NSU shirts.

Go to the Demon Days events! You meet lots of different people, mostly freshmen like yourselves, and get free stuff like prizes and food.

Next thing to know, my young Demons is your way around classes. The custodians know

the buildings better than anyone on campus, so ask them for directions.

I will be honest with you, I don't know much about IncludedED because I opted out of it. I do know, however, about two little websites called Amazon and Chegg that offer access codes for textbooks. Most professors let you use your laptop in class, so not only are you getting your books for cheap, you also don't have to carry that big textbook around all day.

Speaking of professors, introduce yourself to them. Most of them are nice and really want to help you succeed. I'm still bugging my freshman year COMM 1010 professor (shout out to Elaine Eaton).

Professors have office hours posted on Moodle, and I suggest taking advantage of them as much as possible. It's not a big deal asking for help.

Now that I'm mentioning help, talk to your advisors! Do not, I repeat, do not schedule your own classes because you will screw yourself up.

Sure, talking to your parents and other students is helpful (it's how you get the easy professors). Scheduling classes by yourself will put you behind, and you will have no one to blame but yourself.

Last thing to know about classes is to not schedule them all at one time. Taking classes 15 minutes apart is super tiring, and it doesn't matter if you bought a ham sandwich from Vic's because you won't have time to eat it. Trust me on this one.

Here are some other cheat codes I learned during my Demon Days:

-Vic's is slow around 9 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 6-7 p.m. The Caf   is slow in the mornings between 8-9 a.m. and just before dinner.

-There are computer labs on every floor of Kyser and one in the Student Union, so don't walk across campus to the library.

-The elevator is slow in every buildings. Just take the stairs.

-Dr. Maggio's signature pose is the Fork'em, so you never have to ask what to do when taking a photo.

New Demons, I hope you have a great first semester and never have any roommate problems. Enjoy your newfound freedom and experience college to the best of your ability.

In the words of President Dr. Maggio himself, "Fork'em Demons!"

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Created with TheTeachersCorner.net

### Demon Days Craze

Find all 9 NSU related terms and the next Demon Days events!

T	Y	I	G	C	W	F	P	U	R	P	L	E	O	Z	A	O	Z	D	C
F	O	Y	L	H	K	D	R	D	N	M	W	J	D	Q	M	P	D	I	Y
O	K	M	W	L	M	Y	G	E	C	E	U	U	V	Q	L	I	K	Y	Y
N	X	X	R	I	I	F	S	C	S	L	C	A	Q	Y	Z	T	L	M	D
P	E	S	F	I	T	C	N	E	V	H	X	H	E	N	H	C	P	R	D
W	M	O	Y	T	W	A	F	N	R	B	M	J	H	V	M	H	L	P	P
Q	O	J	Y	O	U	O	P	I	B	I	X	E	U	I	Q	F	A	E	A
W	N	B	F	E	B	B	D	B	I	V	S	D	S	K	M	O	M	B	H
B	R	H	A	H	W	X	X	L	S	U	I	I	M	H	P	R	C	S	G
K	E	U	B	Q	O	R	K	D	W	F	Q	M	F	S	B	K	C	I	W
L	F	U	E	N	R	M	N	P	D	G	L	E	L	N	X	S	W	W	Y
T	N	M	F	M	L	V	E	Q	O	I	N	E	L	B	S	S	P	P	W
M	I	T	T	S	Y	V	H	C	H	P	W	M	U	X	J	X	A	Y	J
D	D	S	Z	G	P	M	T	T	O	J	A	F	P	L	G	O	X	S	I
E	D	Z	B	K	J	O	S	M	G	M	U	L	T	B	Y	Y	H	E	F
M	T	Z	K	S	N	Q	N	Z	U	C	I	H	O	Y	B	G	B	G	R
O	V	A	P	C	A	U	C	W	Z	K	I	N	W	O	U	K	W	D	A
N	I	H	K	B	S	G	R	K	R	A	A	E	G	K	Z	V	Y	N	Z
S	I	I	U	L	E	N	A	W	E	K	J	K	U	H	Q	A	E	M	X
Z	T	N	T	T	H	U	R	G	F	E	Y	W	L	P	Z	U	X	J	J

PURPLE	PALOOZA	INFERNO
RUN	HOMECOMING	PITCHFORKS
DEMONS	KYSER	FRESHMESH



# Northwestern State announces beer sales at 2019 football games



NSU #23 is tackled while running the ball. Photo by Chris Reich.

**Jason Pugh**

Assistant AD for Media Relations

NATCHITOCHES – The Northwestern State Athletic Department announced Friday it has received approval to sell beer and spiked seltzers during football games at Turpin Stadium for the 2019 football season.

Northwestern State also will sell the same offerings at baseball and softball games in 2020. Northwestern State's alcohol sales policy can be found on its website here: <https://nsudemons.com/sports/2019/8/16/Alcohol%20Policy.aspx>

The addition of beer sales follows a growing national trend across college athletics, including the Southeastern Conference's decision in May to lift its longtime ban on stadium-wide alcohol sales, which had been the only such ban among any major FBS conference.

Associate Athletic Director for External Relations Dr. Haley Taitano told a capacity crowd in the Stroud Room inside the NSU Athletic Fieldhouse of the decision Thursday night at the annual Season Ticket Pickup Party. The decision was met with a round of applause and cheers.

"This addition (selling beer) to the NSU football in-game experience has been in the works for the past several years, so it is exciting for it to finally come to fruition," NSU Director of Athletics Greg Burke said. "The fact that recent postseason surveys from our fans fervently have requested the sale of beer further reflects that this move will be a positive as it relates to fan satisfaction."

Alcohol sales will originate from the main concession stand on the west side of Turpin Stadium as well as concession stands on the east side and the third floor of the stadium. Customers will be limited to two drinks per trip through the line and sales will end at the conclusion of the third quarter. All purchasers will be required to show their ID at the concession stands at the time of purchase.

Additionally, there will be a no re-entry policy at the stadium this season.

Sodexo, Northwestern State Athletics' catering partner, collaborated on the policy for the sale of beer and wine at Turpin Stadium.

"Kudos to several individuals, including Haley, Sodexo General Manager Steve Kauf, and other members of our administration and campus community, for their input and due diligence that helped position our department and university for this significant in-game enhancement," Burke said.

Added Taitano: "Beer sales will provide an increased revenue stream for NSU, not only in the form of concession sales revenue, but also through enhanced sponsorship agreements. We have been working closely with our current corporate partner, Eagle Distributing, and have recently developed a new partnership with Cane River Brewing Co. here in Natchitoches. There is an exciting announcement regarding that partnership coming soon."

Northwestern State's home opener is set for Sept. 7 against Midwestern State. Kickoff is at 6 p.m.



Lady Demons celebrate a point during a practice match. Photo by Brianna Fife.

## NSU Lady Demon Volleyball Team Excited for a New Season

**Albert Hewitt**

Contributing Writer

It's almost September, which means it's time for the fall sports to come back into season. The Lady Demon volleyball team is one of many teams prepping and readying themselves for the upcoming 2019 season.

The team is well into their preseason practices. With an eager team including two newcomers, Haley Hoang and Addison McDermott, the Lady Demons are excited for the upcoming games.

"This 2019 team has a lot of great returning talent and has great chemistry, so for this group there isn't a question mark of 'is this going to be a good year,'" five-season NSU Coach Sean Kiracofe said. "It's more of looking forward to what they can accomplish."

The Lady Demon's overall record was 12-15 for the 2018 season, but this season holds promise for the team as they strive to always bring their all to the court.

"This season we are improving the team chemistry which is helping us improve the level of play on the court," senior outside hitter Alexis Warren said. "Something that motivates me for this year is going in as an underdog and it being my last year."

Senior libero Megan Lohmiller enjoys being the underdog and

taking the season one game at a time.

"When things go good on the court, we are very successful, but when we are being pushed and having to play under some pressure, we usually don't pull it out," Lohmiller said.

"When it is time for crunch time this season, I want to play with a chip on my shoulder and have something to prove individually and as a team. I want the public to know this team has something to prove, and we are coming into 2019 with a chip on our shoulder."

Kiracofe is ready to show off the team throughout the season.

"[Volleyball] is an entertaining sport that is fun to attend, and we appreciate all the fans that come to all of our matches and the new ones to give it a try," Kiracofe said. "We have a fun group of players, and you can tell they enjoy themselves out on the court while still being incredibly competitive."

Junior outside hitter Hannah Brister has one motto for this season: play each game like it's the most important game in NSU history.

"That mindset is what's going to win us games," Brister said. "I want the public to know that this team has something to prove. Our goals are set high and our mindsets are set higher."

Schedules, the team roster and updates on matches can be found at [www.nsudemons.com](http://www.nsudemons.com).



# GAME SCHEDULE

## Football

8/29/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Martin, TN  
vs. UT Martin

## Volleyball

8/30/19 12:00 p.m.  
@Fayetteville, AR  
vs. Arkansas

8/30/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Fayetteville, AR  
vs. Montana State

8/31/19 1:00 p.m.  
@Fayetteville, AR  
vs. Little Rock

## Soccer

8/30/19 5:30 p.m.  
@Grambling, LA  
vs. Grambling

9/1/19 1:00 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Soccer  
Complex  
vs. Louisiana Tech

## (M) Cross Country

8/30/19 7:50 p.m.  
@SFA Lumberjack  
Opener

## (W) Cross Country

8/30/19 7:30 p.m.  
@SFA Lumberjack  
Opener

## Focus on the little things, and watch the big things fall into place

**Anson Ballow**  
*Sports Editor*

Entering his second year as head coach, Brad Laird has instilled this concept into an emboldened Demon football team that looks to capitalize on momentum they've carried through the end of last season.

Now at the conclusion of their fall camp, the Demons sit poised, eager to showcase the physical ability and mental focus they've been training for.

"Two of the biggest takeaways from camp are the level of effort and consistency from the team," Laird said. "These scrimmages, these practices are so important for the guys to understand the opportunities on a Saturday morning and transfer them to a Saturday night."

Supported by a roster that holds 21 seniors, they look to leave a legacy of change for future Demons to build upon. Commanding the field academically, in the community and on the field, the large senior class

has met the challenge of cultivating an atmosphere of execution.

"It has all boiled down to accountability," senior defensive safety Nick Forde said. "Not only do we have to individually take the necessary steps to succeed, but as a team, we have to hold each other accountable to a certain standard of performance."

Following a 5-6, 4-5 in conference, record in the 2018 season in which they managed to win three out of the last four games, the Demons hope

to become a force to be reckoned with in the Southland Conference.

"Following our performance in the past decade or so, I want us to be the ones to leave a legacy of lasting change to the Demons culture," senior offensive guard Christopher Zinkle said. "I want to be a part of the culture shift that establishes this program as a top-tier Southland Conference team."

The Demons officially kick off their season at UT Martin on Aug. 29 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

## Editorial Board

Samantha Clark  
**Editor-in-Chief**

Brianna Corley  
**Arts and Living Editor**

Anson Ballow  
**Sports Editor**

Leanna Coy  
**News Editor**

Trinity Velazquez  
**Viewpoints Editor**

Mekayla Jenkins  
**Photo Editor**

Have an opinion to share?  
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Submit your piece to  
[thecurrentsauce@gmail.com](mailto:thecurrentsauce@gmail.com)  
for editorial consideration.





## “Beware of Alligator” signs now on NSU campus



**New signs warn pedestrians of the alligators spotted in Lake Chaplain.** Photo by Leanna Coy.

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

NSU’s physical plant added new signs warning of alligators along the walking trail by Chaplain’s Lake over the summer.

Dale Wohletz, physical plant director, said he was asked to put the signs up because people had been seeing alligators in the lake.

“I have seen them and have watched them crossing the levee

down here by the physical plant,” Wohletz said. “The signs were put up as a warning, and we sure don’t want people to feed them.”

Chaplain’s Lake is one of the practice sites for NSU’s rowing team. Jason Stelly, head coach, said the alligators won’t affect the rowing team’s practices.

Stelly said that even though the signs were put up recently, the alligators have actually been around for a while. He said they won’t affect the rowers because the

alligators usually stay away from the noise and movement of the team’s practices.

Sheridan Douglas, junior, is a student who recently started running on the trail by Chaplain’s Lake. Douglas said she has seen the signs and thinks it is somewhat scary that there are alligators in the lake.

She also said that although she’s going to watch out for the alligators, the possibility of seeing one isn’t stopping her from using the trail.

## Student organizations to enter “Purple Portal” in spring 2020

**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter

This semester, the Department of Student Activities and Organizations started the transition from Orgsync to a new platform called Purple Portal.

Orgsync has been a staple of student organizations at Northwestern State for the last decade. Organizations used the platform for everything, from event planning and rosters to polls and storage space.

Yonna Pasch, director of student activities and organizations, said the benefits offered by Purple Portal were more in line with what is needed by the department.

“It’s a simpler process for the organization’s side of it,” Pasch said. “We realized with Orgsync that for the last ten years, several things were not really where they needed to be.”

Senior Sarahjane Ladut said she’s glad things are being switched up.

“While Orgsync has been useful to the organizations I’m in over the last few years, there definitely is room for improvement,” Ladut said. “I’m looking forward to using a more straightforward system.”

A big factor in the decision behind the switch was the cost. Many services offered by Orgsync went unused by some organizations. However, the Department of Student Activities and Organizations was

still paying for those services.

One of the biggest changes between the two systems is the opportunity to look at real-time data. Orgsync often would take weeks to deliver data back to the university. With Purple Portal, data on events is available within 24 hours, which Pasch said is vital for assessment.

Senior Aron Stephens is relatively indifferent to the swap.

“Orgsync was a fine platform to see what organizations the campus had to offer, but there are better avenues of communication and organization,” Stephens said.

While integration is currently underway, Pasch said she expects it won’t be complete until the start of next semester.

## City bike and pedestrian plan reaches final stages



**Sooraz Patro, director of transportation at the Rapides Area Planning Commission, provides details of the Commission’s proposed bike lane and crosswalk plans.** Photo by Keator Poleman

**Keator Poleman**  
Reporter

Sooraz Patro, director of transportation at the Rapides Area Planning Commission, reviewed the final proposal on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan at a public meeting August 28.

The plan, confined to within the Natchitoches city limits, shows six types of proposed bike lanes. The lanes include: signed routes with no pavement markings, shared lane markings, on-street bike lanes, on-street buffered bike lanes, separated bike lanes and off-street trails and side paths.

Patro said the total cost of the plan would cost \$8,137,271.32. The proposed pedestrian plan would cost \$1,701,329.67. Some of the roadways mentioned in the proposal are Martin Luther King Drive, Sam Sibley Drive, Second Street, Church Street and Kyser Avenue.

Patro said the community should invest in the project because it will bolster personal health, improve safety and the quality of life, protect the environment, enhance economic development and help the potential tourism of the city thrive.

In a survey, the Rapides Area Planning Commission found 225 of 346 respondents, 74.3%, said they were very likely to walk or bike for exercise or to go to a park.

Patro said there is not a time frame of when the proposal will be funded. He said the primary reason the plan will work is because of the speed limits in Natchitoches. He also said the bike and pedestrian plans are connected with the bike share project.

As of now, no plan is in place to have bike racks set up around the city.

Mayor Lee Posey could not attend the meeting.



# New faces prepare to take center stage



**Senior and co-director of New Faces, Sydney Gilder.** *Submitted Photo.*

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

New students of theater and dance will step across the Magale Recital Hall stage as they make their NSU stage debut in New Faces starting at 6 p.m.

The concept of the annual event, which is free and open to the public, was crafted as a form of initiation for freshmen and transfer students entering the department.

"For the department it's a great way to create a community," Sidney Gilder, senior and co-director of New Faces, said. "There's a beautiful energy in the room, and we are all there cheering for every single piece, boosting them up and letting them know they're safe here and can perform and present their art."

As a production cultivated entirely in the honor of the new faces where upperclassmen of all variety assist newcomers in their specific area, it serves as not solely a source introduction but one of connection.

"Having that senior coach help does make a difference," Kyle

Harrison, freshmen technician, said. "We met with the senior technician, and they let us take control. If we come up with a blank, they help us to keep us going."

For Harrison, alongside many others in the production's crew, New Faces will be his first time on stage, a factor that sheds light on the show's practicality.

New Faces acts as a gateway of learning not only for its performing newcomers but those overseeing it. There is a total of nine student co-directors choreographing numbers, choosing music and assuring every detail is in place.

With this year's theme playing ode to "The Greatest Showmen," directors carefully both crafted and assisted all aspects of production, from the grand opening number, combining songs "The Greatest Show" and "This is Me," to each individual monologue, dance, set piece and song.

"I'm very thankful for the opportunity we're getting and the fact the faculty and department are doing this for us," Trevor McEvon, freshman dancer and featured soloist in the opening number, said. "A lot of colleges don't do this for their freshmen, so I think it's incredible that Northwestern State does this."

# A.A. Fredericks begins fall renovations



**Scott Burrell, assistant director of Creative and Performing Arts, shows off the pre-renovated A.A. Fredericks auditorium.** *Photo by Keator Poleman.*

**Keator Poleman**  
Reporter

Students and patrons hoping to attend the 2019 Christmas Gala in the A.A. Frederick's auditorium will have to wait a year before they can see the event in the historic theatre. NSU's School of Creative and Performing Arts has begun to update the theatre after a year of planning and negotiations.

The updates will take place as two projects, Scott Burrell, director of the school of Creative and Performing Arts, said. A.A. Frederick's lobby and the auditorium are the two main focuses of the renovations.

According to Burrell, the lobby's "facelift" will be more inviting to patrons. The auditorium will likewise provide the audience with a better atmosphere in which to celebrate the performances.

"The idea is to bring the auditorium back to its 'deco' charm," Burrell said. "For the lobby, this will include a color palette reminiscent of the period as well as two period-style chandeliers."

He hopes the updates will let the performers feel a sense of pride and professionalism.

"We are very appreciative to all the members of the administration who had a hand in accessing funds for this much needed renovation," Greg Handel, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, said discussion on the project began last fall.

The proposals were made in the spring and funding was finalized in August, and completion of the project is expected at the start of the spring semester.

Handel said the school wants to emphasize the features original to the building. Renovations will include restoring the lobby's terrazzo floor, refurbishing and updating auditorium lighting with LED bulbs, updating the carpet and emphasizing design aspects on the walls.

Handel said he whole project is expected to cost about \$200,000. If additional money is allocated, Handel said the school hopes to replace the seating and get a new stage curtain.

Je'Breanne Morgan, senior theatre major, said she cannot wait to work in the new space.

She said she hopes the renovations will peak people's interest in theatre and bring in more patrons.

"I hope that we have a safe, updated facility for all future performances," Morgan said.

Hannah Bradley, senior theatre major and Scholars' College student, said she is excited about the updates at the auditorium.

She said CAPA has had issues with hosting events and painting a safe environment in A.A. Fredericks.

Bradley said she is sad to not have the theatre for her senior Gala and New Faces moments but is happy future students will have an updated theater.

"I think that, because I know it is such a big part of our family, I am excited for it to be a better space for the next part of our family," Bradley said.

**\*"NSU Lady Demon Volleyball Team Excited for a New Season" was written by contributing writer Kathleen Hilliard.**



# Melody Gilbert: meet the woman behind the camera



**Melody Gilbert poses with documentaries and past film festival badges.** Photo by Trinity Velazquez.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

Melody Gilbert started her career as a broadcast journalist, but she decided to leave broadcast for good to teach. She doesn't really know how it happened, but she's now been teaching for over 20 years.

"Someone invited me to come speak to their class," Gilbert said. "Then I went from speaking to classes to becoming an adjunct then to being full time. I really love it. It's been a really nice transition for me."

Gilbert is an award-winning documentary filmmaker with seven feature length films behind her, including "Married at the Mall," "A Life Without Pain" and her new upcoming feature "Silicone Soul."

Gilbert was hired by NSU as an assistant professor in the Department of New Media, Journalism, & Communication Arts in 2019.

Even when she's making films, she has always been teaching.

"Whether it's short-term, long-term, overseas, one class or workshop, I love teaching," Gilbert said.

She owns a production company called Frozen Feet Films. She opened her production company around the same time she started teaching.

Her first independent film, "Married at the Mall," is a documentary about people tying the knot at the Chapel of Love in the Mall of America near Minneapolis.

Gilbert filmed "Married at the Mall" with just herself, a camera and microphone. When she first started teaching, she decided that if she were going to teach her students to work alone in multimedia journalism, then she should know how to do it herself.

"One of the reasons I love it is because I didn't know anything about the industry or the business," Gilbert

said. "I just made it. I went out in the world and made a lot of mistakes."

Gilbert wanted to film something close to home. Only living 15 minutes away from the Mall of America, she wanted something she could have access to. She didn't want to do something in a foreign country or in another state.

"If something happened, I'd be able to jump in my car and go and film a wedding," Gilbert said.

She wanted her first self-made documentary to be easy to find and film.

She had to teach herself how to do everything on her own, but she showed no fear. She wasn't familiar with the technology when she first started on her own. She was used to broadcast television where people carried the camera and the boom mike.

"This was the first time the camera was small enough for me to take out on my own," Gilbert said. "I learned by watching over the years in broadcast television."

She wasn't scared. She was excited.

The most important thing she learned from journalism was to be a good listener.

"Genuine listening, where you are paying attention, is something you learn over time," Gilbert said.

When it comes to her documentaries, she is asked how she gets people to open up to her. The thing is, she never feels like she "gets" people to open up to her.

"I just am really interested in what they're saying," Gilbert said.

To her, there is a big difference. Her way of thinking is just asking "why?" She wants to know why people do the things that they do or what makes certain people tick.

"I really want to know that stuff and I think people know that," Gilbert said.

She doesn't try to "get" you. She used to work for network news, so she

knows all about that. She didn't like it so much because it was all about the "get."

"Independent filming is what I'm doing now," Gilbert said. "It's not about the 'get.' It's about exploring the story."

Not only has Gilbert directed her own films, she's produced a few that have won or have been nominated for awards such as the James Beard award for "The Starfish Throwers" and "Beneath the Ink," which is nominated for a 2019 Emmy for Outstanding Short Documentary.

"Beneath the Ink" is directed by Cy Dodson. "Beneath the Ink" is about a tattoo artist in Ohio named Billy Joe White. He covers up hate-filled ink for free.

In under 20 minutes, audience members may feel triggered and experience many emotions, but that's what Gilbert wants. She wants people to watch and then find out it's the opposite of what it seems.

"In any kind of storytelling, there is always scene setting at the beginning which is supposed to pull you gradually," Gilbert said. "At some point there is either a conflict, a surprise or a shock of some kind. All those things happen to continue forward."

There are things in any of her films that will make someone feel uncomfortable, but that is what she does. It doesn't matter if she's directed or produced it. She wants to make stories that will get people to think. She isn't trying to give people all the answers.

"I like to have twists and turns and surprises, that's how you get people watching or interested," Gilbert said.

Her goal is for people to form their own opinion on things. She wants people to respond and keep watching.

Her advice to anyone starting out is to just start.

"Start, make mistakes, and then start again," Gilbert said.

She made a lot of mistakes the first time, but she learned from those mistakes and made fewer the next time. That is her definition of success.

"You have to start and figure out what you like," Gilbert said. "I like to shoot and produce, direct, and edit. I like it all."

The Department of New media, Journalism, & Communication Arts is sponsoring a screening of Silicone Soul on Sept. 24 in the Varnado Hall Ballroom at 6:30 p.m. Gilbert will attend the screening to introduce the film and to answer questions after the screening.



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hello Vic! I was just wondering if you would happen to have any tips on adulting in college. I'm a freshman here at NSU, and I need assistance adjusting to life without my parents. Please help!

**A** Don't panic! It's common to have jitters the first few weeks of being on your own. Here are some tips that should help you along the way of stepping into adulthood.

- Get organized. Being organized will help you in the long run. It will also help you stay in line with your schoolwork.
- Practice time management. Getting a planner will help you stay organized while also helping you manage time. It's so easy to let time slip away from you. Avoid wasting time by making a schedule or set routine that will give you an appropriate amount of time to accomplish everything on your agenda.
- Rest! Always make sure that you are always rested enough to complete the task at hand.
- Take care of yourself. It is up to you now to make sure that you are not running your body down. If you ever feel ill, you can still call your parents. Just make sure you visit the infirmary located on campus too!
- Find a job. Natchitoches is full of places looking to hire students. If you want to help out your parents, step into adulthood by making your own money. This will also prepare you for life after college!

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# Meet your Current Sauce staff



**Mekayla Jenkins**  
**Sophomore**  
**Photo Editor**  
**Favorite Song:** Sit next to Me by Foster the People

**Brianna Corley**  
**Sophomore**  
**Arts and Living Editor**  
**Favorite Song:** Tangerine by Led Zeppelin



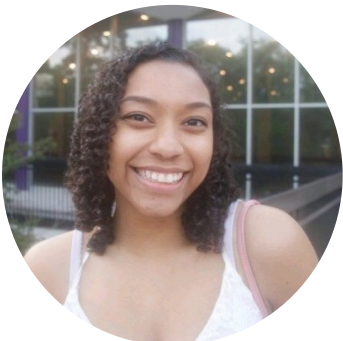
**Anson Ballow**  
**Senior**  
**Sports Editor**  
**Favorite Song:** Roddy by Djo

**Brianna Fife**  
**Sophomore**  
**Photographer**  
**Favorite Song:** Daydream by J-hope



**Leanna Coy**  
**Sophomore**  
**News Editor**  
**Favorite Song:** Double by blackbear

**Keator Poleman**  
**Senior**  
**Reporter**  
**Favorite Song:** I Want it That Way by Backstreet Boys



**Trinity Velazquez**  
**Junior**  
**Viewpoints Editor**  
**Favorite Song:** Dance with Somebody by Whitney Houston

**Thomas Celles**  
**Senior**  
**Reporter**  
**Favorite Song:** Warriors of the Night by Datsik



**Samantha Clark**  
**Senior**  
**Editor-in-Chief**  
**Favorite Song:** Lover by Taylor Swift

**Madelyn Dupont**  
**Junior**  
**Marketing Director**  
**Favorite Song:** September Song by JP Cooper





# NSYou

**Should Kyser be a commuter parking lot?**



"No because parking is already scarce around campus."

**Macala Broussard**  
Psychology and English  
Freshman



"No because making it a communal lot won't fix the issue, which is that there are too many people driving that don't need to be."

**Amanda Rushing**  
Hospitality Management and Tourism  
Junior



"Yes because there is not enough parking space for the commuters."

**Katie Allen**  
Secondary Education and English  
Junior



"Yes because a lot of people that park in the lot are students who already live on campus which takes up space in the parking lot when the on-campus students could just walk. Especially because a lot of commuter lots are smaller, it would be nice for them to have one big space."

**Thomas Young**  
Psychology  
Sophomore

# Demon Debates

**Is Greek life worth it?**



**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter

Other than graduating, Greek Life is probably the best thing you can do in college.

Don't believe me? It comes down to statistics.

Ignoring the lifelong bonds of brother/sisterhood, the amazing experiences, and the leadership opportunities that come from being Greek, the benefits boil down to this: Greeks are more likely to graduate on time, more likely to have higher GPAs overall, more likely to have stronger resumes upon graduating and much more likely to be well-adjusted individuals and mentally healthy.

According to a study done by P. Routon and Jay Walker, 70% of Greek students nationally

graduate in five years or less. For non-Greeks, that number is sitting around 50%.

Furthering the academic advantage, a study done in 2017 by economists William Even and Austin Smith found that, on average, Greek grade-point averages were between 0.1 and 0.2 points higher than non-Greek affiliated students. That could be the difference between snagging that scholarship you've been eyeing or graduating with honors.

Have you noticed that most leadership positions on campus are held by fraternity or sorority members? It is not because the system is rigged. Instead, it is because Greek members are more likely to be involved on campus several organizations at once on campus.

As for mental health, let us refer to mental health expert and advocate Ross Szabo. You may

remember him from Leadership NSU two years ago. Szabo says that Greeks are in a better position to be mentally healthy for three reasons: a stronger support structure, better connection to a community and shared values that enhance emotional development.

There are many benefits that come from membership in a fraternity or sorority. Those benefits are usually not what drives people to join.

It comes down to the fact that people really enjoy spending time with people with shared values, common culture and a dedication to the community and philanthropy.

None of this means that just because you are not interested in Greek Life, you can't be successful. It just means that if you did go Greek, the stats are in your favor. Go Greek, and you'll go places.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

I think every undergrad on this campus has thought about rushing and joining what seems to be the glamorous experience that is Greek Life.

Joining Greek Life sounds like a lot of fun, and I know that people make lots of connections and friends because of it.

Even if I wanted to say something bad about going Greek I can't. Greek life can be a great thing for some people.

But you don't have to be in Greek life to make connections or make friends, so I believe that Greek Life isn't worth joining.

Reason number one is the price of tuition, books and room and board already make for an expensive price tag on college education. Students who choose to join Greek life are going to end up paying more for their

undergraduate experience.

The average semester expenses for sororities at Louisiana State University is \$1,366.50 alone. Add room and board plus average meal plans, and you are looking at around \$5,000, according to LSU Greek Life.

The main cause for the price differences between Greek organizations, especially those on campus, is the number of dues that go toward the national organization insurance bill. For example, organizations that have a history of hazing violations will usually pay excessive amounts for insurance.

This brings me to my next point: hazing. We all know that hazing is bad and is a problem on every campus. No matter how generous the donations are to a philanthropy, Greek life is shady.

Hazing may not be allowed on campus, but that doesn't mean it doesn't happen. We're in college. We're not stupid. Greek life can

be dangerous sometimes. Let's not forget that people have died because of hazing.

My third point goes back to my introduction: making connections. It seems like Greek life is prevalent on campus, but the truth is only 7% of students on this campus are in Greek life.

Surprise, you don't have to be in Greek life to be in organizations or homecoming court. I was a senator in Student Government Association and an editor for the Current Sauce at the same time, and I'm not in Greek life.

Getting involved and meeting friends is how you make connections. Being in Greek life certainly helps, but anyone can be a leader on campus.

Greek life isn't worth it. You can be friends with anyone in Greek life without ever having to rush. Greek life is expensive, potentially dangerous and, on this campus, the minority of students.



# I feel most powerful in women’s misery



Woman’s Power Specialist on Pixabay.

Trinity Velazquez  
Viewpoints Editor

“There are days I want people to like me more than I want to change the world.”

Blythe Baird’s poem, Pocket Sized Feminism, is always a poem that I always keep in my back pocket. In her poem she talks about what it is like to speak up as a woman when dealing with

topics like sexual assault, sexism and what it means to be a woman in general.

There’s a video of her performing her poem on YouTube, and in those two minutes and 50 seconds I feel sadness and anger rise inside me. I nod my head and scream “Yes” in my room. Loud, but not loud enough so my family can hear me.

But I also feel an overwhelming call to action. I want to change the world for myself and women all around, right then and there. I will sit in bed and think about the words that I just heard, and then the adrenaline is gone as soon as

it came.

Is she likeable enough? by New York Times gender Jessica Bennett is another example of a piece that gives me a quick sense to get up, and my hero complex will be turned on again.

In her article she targets women in the workplace, specifically women in power. She explains that women will fall into this likeability trap because women don’t want to be called difficult when trying to be authoritative.

Again, I am nodding my head and thinking about all my friends I could send this to because I want them to feel empowered the same way I am when reading Bennett’s words.

The thing is, I didn’t stumble upon this article. I have a subscription to The New York Times. I get emails from a certain area of women-related topics called “In Her Words”. I don’t seek out news articles unless they might affect me in some way.

When I do read the news, it’s about women and college girls that have been killed, catcalled, or have almost been attacked and ways to prevent it from happening again.

Why is it that I only feel powerful when reading words

like the ones Blythe and Bennett write? I think that it is a little disappointing that I understand on a personal level when a woman is talking about their trauma.

Even when the trauma has not happened to me, I can feel her pain because in the back of my mind I know that someday I might, and I hate that. I hate that I live in this constant state of fear and that I feel better when I read and see that there are other women that feel the same.

Women feel connected when we can understand each other. Maybe I don’t feel powerful in another woman’s misery, but I understand where they are coming from.

Maybe that empowerment and sudden urge to shape the world is not a bad thing but just a buildup so that when I have the opportunity to speak up and change minds, I can think of every moment that I nodded my head and have all the written words of the women that inspired me ready at hand.

Maybe I am interested in powerful words that women write simply because I feel powerful when I read them. And maybe that’s the point. I feel powerful as I write this, and my goal is for whoever reads it feel that same way.

## NSU Word Scramble

- PRLEPU
- NOMED ASDY
- LMAEAG
- IARSCAP
- UDTNEST NOIUN
- FKOR ME
- OISHATHCTECN
- NTORF TTSREE
- LOCNUMS
- YRVTSIEUIN APLCE

### Hint Box

- 1) Official color of Northwestern
- 2) First 42 days at NSU
- 3) Recital Hall
- 4) The Student Services building is on this street
- 5) Vic’s is here
- 6) Dr. Maggio’s favorite phrase
- 7) The city and home of the Demons
- 8) Mama’s and Papa’s is located on this historic street
- 9) Normal Hill
- 10) The residence halls



# Lady Demons aim to continue consistent play at Jackson State

**Brad Welborn**  
*Assistant Director of Communications*

JACKSON, Mississippi – The Northwestern State volleyball team is coming off its most successful opening weekend since 2014. The Lady Demons finished the Arkansas Invitational with a dramatic, five-set comeback win against Montana State and a sweep of Little Rock to end the weekend at 2-1. It is the best record in a season-opening tournament since NSU beat Missouri and Mississippi Valley State to start the 2014 campaign. It is also a start fifth-year head coach Sean Kiracofe wants to continue this week as NSU travels to Jackson State at 6:30 Tuesday night. “Going in, it’s easy to be at a high level from an energy and mentality

## Posey’s Sports Center offers ticket/T-Shirt combo for opener



Photo from nsudemons.com

**Jason Pugh**  
*Sports Information Director*

NATCHITOCHES – One of the best deals involving Northwestern State football tickets is back. Posey’s Sports Center is offering a “Ticket and T-Shirt” deal for \$15. The pairing puts together a general admission ticket to Saturday’s home-opening football game against Midwestern State and a “Purple Reign” T-shirt, matching the theme for the game. Posey’s Sports Center is located at 536 Keyser Ave. in Natchitoches and opens at 9 a.m. Monday-Saturday.

standpoint of being competitive at the beginning,” Kiracofe said. “If you go out and win that first set, you should be able to maintain that and win two and three.”

“It was really good to be able to see that against Little Rock, because that’s what we’re going to face at Jackson State -- consistency, being on top of your game, and never thinking that the set if over until it actually is.”

The Tigers went 3-0 in their opening weekend, with wins against Delaware State, South Carolina State, and Florida A&M in the SWAC/MEAC Challenge in Montgomery, Alabama.

JSU, picked fifth in the pre-season SWAC poll, returns nine players from last year’s 11-25 team, including preseason first-team All-SWAC middle blocker Marina Brito.

“It’s a very short turnaround for us from a scout standpoint,” Kiracofe said. “We have the privilege of having played them a few times recently, so we have a little idea of what to expect. But I really think it’s going to come down to consistency on our side of the net and staying at that level mentality to keep producing on a constant basis.”

Kiracofe said he was pleased with how the Lady Demons fared on the weekend, especially in the sweep of Little Rock, where they showed the most balanced effort of the young season.

NSU had four players with seven or more kills in the three-set match, with junior Hannah Brister and senior Alexis Warren each recording their second straight kill-dig, double-doubles.

“I was happy to see us come out and set a standard offensively and defensively, which we maintained throughout the match,” Kiracofe said following the match Saturday. “The matches like Montana State are the kind everyone remembers, and it’s justifiable why, but the consistency is what is going to set us up for being productive during the season.”

The Lady Demons held Little Rock to an .078 hitting percentage, while swinging better than .320 themselves. Defensively, NSU posted 56 digs, 20 more than the Trojans. It is that consistency of offensive production and defensive prowess the Lady Demons hope to continue this week.

Live stats for Tuesday night’s match will be available at nsudemons.com.

KNWD DJ BLOCKING						
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1:00 AM						
2:00 AM						
3:00 AM						
4:00 AM						
5:00 AM						
6:00 AM						
7:00 AM						
8:00 AM		MICHAEL PLAISANCE BRAYDEN KIMBROUGH				
9:00 AM						
10:00 AM						
11:00 AM		COLIE PLASTER		KNWD SPORTS		
12:00 PM				BRIYONNA COLLINS		
1:00 PM		KEATOR POLEMAN		YONNA PASCH VANNER ERIKSON	KNWD NEWS SHOW	BRYAUNA PERSILVER
2:00 PM				HAILIE COUTEE		
3:00 PM			LINH NGYUEN NASH NICHOLLS		PAUL BRYANT	
4:00 PM		VALENTINA PEREZ VALERIA PEREZ			MAKAYLEEN MILSON	DANIEL MINER
5:00 PM					DEKAMERON CAMPBELL MAYA MORSE COLIN VEDROS	TAMARRAW POWELL
6:00 PM		RICHARD BRUMBLOW DIEGO MALDONADO	ALBERT HEWITT DARIUS BROCK JOE BRADLEY	LERON MASSEY		J'COREY WILLIAMS ZACHARY LEBEOUF MADISON ROMERO
7:00 PM						RHIANNON VENABLE CINNAMON PLAYER CODY LACAZE SHARISSA TANNER
8:00 PM						
9:00 PM						
10:00 PM						
11:00 PM						
12:00 AM						



# NSU prepares for home football play

**Albert Hewitt**  
Contributing Writer

The 2019 school year is officially underway, meaning that Demon football in Turpin Stadium returns soon. The Demons open up home play on Sept. 7 against Midwestern State beginning at 6 p.m.

After winning three of the last four games in the 2018 season, the Demons look to pick up exactly where they left off.

The Demons are returning with familiar faces from the offense that broke records last year.

Shelton Eppler, senior quarterback who threw for 474 passing yards and six touchdowns to claim school records against Lamar last year, returns to lead the Demon offense into the 2019 season.

Although the Demons lost Jazz



**NSU football players tackle a McNeese player trying to run the ball.** Photo by Chris Reich.

Ferguson, now NFL wide receiver for the Seattle Seahawks, the talent in the receiving area runs deep.

With veteran receivers like Quan Shorts, Gavin Landry, and Tanner Ash returning, wide receivers coach Alvin Slaughter knows the talent this group possesses.

“Our veteran receivers did a great

job early on accepting the leadership role and also executing in that role during training camp,” Slaughter said in a recent press release.

“With new guys, and transfer receiver from (Brigham Young University) Akile Davis, joining the team it was vital that our vets stepped up to enforce the standard

of work that we go by with a quarterback of Eppler’s caliber,” Slaughter said.

As fans prepare to watch the Demons take the field, they should also prepare themselves for new changes at Turpin Stadium.

Demon fans can look forward to beer sales at home games this year as the Northwestern State Athletic Department recently announced that it had been approved to sell beer and spiked seltzers at Turpin stadium.

“I believe that the new sales will definitely bring more people to Turpin, only adding to our already growing school spirit,” junior cheerleader Gabe Vargas said.

Get ready for the smell of hotdogs, sunny days, and a great sports environment as fans are only a few days away from watching the Demons take the field in Turpin Stadium.

## Athlete of the Week: Nicole Henry



**Sophomore Nicole Henry kicks the ball away from Abeline Christian University player.** Photo by Chris Reich.

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

As the Northwestern State Lady Demons begin their regular soccer season this fall, returning sophomore centerback Nicole Henry has already begun to show how instrumental she is to the Lady Demons defensive play.

Born in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, Nicole transferred to Tomball, Texas during high school. She grew up playing club soccer through middle and high school, eventually leading her to team to a club division championship her senior year.

At Klein Oak High School, she was named Newcomer of the Year as a sophomore and was a three-time all-district selection as a right

midfielder and a right back.

In her first season at NSU, Nicole started all 20 games as a true freshman, clocking 1,674 minutes of game play. With a strong defensive unit, she managed to hold opponents to one goal or less in 11 out of NSU’s 20 games, only allowing 1.60 goals and nine shots per game.

“Over half of our team is new, so it’s taken time,” Henry said. “But

everything is starting to click, and we’re building the chemistry of a championship-winning team.”

Recently shifting her major from health and exercise science to industrial engineering technology, Henry is setting herself up academically to become successful.

However, the dream of playing professional becomes more tangible with every stand-out performance.

### GAME SCHEDULE

#### Football

9/7/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs. Midwestern State

#### Volleyball

9/6/19 11:30 a.m.  
@Mobile, AL  
vs. Mississippi Valley State

9/6/19 7:00 p.m.  
@Mobile, AL  
vs. South Alabama

9/7/19 11:30 a.m.  
@Mobile, AL  
vs. Tennessee State

#### Soccer

9/6/19 7:00 p.m.  
@Monroe, LA  
vs. University of Louisiana Monroe

9/8/19 1:00 p.m.  
@Jackson, Mississippi  
vs. Jackson State

## Editorial Board

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# Remembering 9/11



**18 years later**



# Cane River Brewing Company introduces Demon Lager



**Demon Lager is the first official beer of NSU.** Photo by RSHVnews.

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Natchitoches' Cane River Brewing Company partnered with NSU to release Demon Lager, a new beer that will be sold at NSU's football games. With its purple can and Northwestern logo, the Demon Lager is the first official beer of NSU.

Justin Krouse and Cade Gentry, co-founders of Cane River Brewing Company, are both graduates of NSU. Krouse said the two had been wanting to come out with an NSU beer for a few years now.

"We wanted to give back to Northwestern," Krouse said. "It means the world to us."

Many universities in Louisiana have their own beer, so Krouse said he and Gentry wanted NSU to be able to have one as well.

Gentry said it felt amazing to be able to partner with NSU on the project.

"It really is like a dream come true," Gentry said.

This football season is significant because for the first time, people will be able to buy beer at Turpin Stadium. Gentry said he believes this will benefit both the brewery and NSU. Now, fans won't have to leave the game if they want a drink.

For students 21 years old and over, the Demon Lager will be an addition to the game-day experience at NSU. Juan Santos, senior, said he is excited to be able to purchase the beer at football games.

"Sporting events with alcohol are always better," Santos said.

Aside from being sold at football games, Demon Lager can also be purchased at Super 1 Foods, Maggio's Package Liquor and in the Cane River Brewing Company taproom.

# CAPA presents faculty showcase



**Poster for the CAPA Music and Art Faculty Showcase.**

**Kathleen Hilliard**  
Contributing Writer

On Tuesday the annual NSU Faculty Showcase will be held in Magale Recital Hall from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The event has gone on for approximately 20 years at NSU and hosts both the music recital and the art faculty exhibition. The art exhibition will be open at 6:30 p.m. prior to the show.

This year will feature 14 performers with performances on voice, saxophone, oboe, violin, timpani, clarinet, French horn, cello, flute and bassoon.

Instructor of Oboe Leah Forsyth coordinated the NSU Faculty Showcase the past few years and was happy to do so again.

"It really brings everyone together including the community," Forsyth said. "It allows students from all different studios to hear performances on instruments they might not normally hear. I really enjoy this event because it's a fun collaboration between lots of faculty."

The event is traditionally open to applied instrumental and voice faculty along with other appropriate

collaborators in CAPA. Faculty are selected based on who decides to sign up in one of the available slots for the show.

Forsyth, one of the 14 performers for the event, will be performing a short oboe etude by a French composer.

Sophomore CAPA student Caroline Shepherd is excited to experience this year's faculty showcase after attending last year's performance.

"Not only does it give us as students an opportunity to see our professors rightfully show off their amazing hard work and talents, but it also displays our staff's dedication and leadership," Shepherd said. "By performing and giving us a sample of what they can accomplish, they're setting an amazing example for students who are looking to improve their own performance and practice skills."

The event is free for all NSU students and faculty.

"Even if students aren't directly involved in CAPA life, the showcase is an extremely enjoyable display of our professor's hard work and amazing talent," Shepherd said. "There's lots of good repertoire and a variety of pieces to come listen to."

## NSU to host annual Family Day

Press release courtesy of Leah Jackson

NATCHITOCHES – Northwestern State University will host Family Day Saturday, Sept. 28 when families are invited to spend time with their student on campus and in the Natchitoches community, tailgate and enjoy NSU football.

A complete Family Day Package includes a ticket to the NSU-Southeastern Louisiana football game, tailgate dinner

and Family Day t-shirt.

All students and family members must be registered to participate. Children three years and older must have a ticket for the tailgate meal and to attend the football game. Students should also be registered for the Family Day meal.

All event tickets are non-refundable. Reservations must be received by noon Friday, Sept. 20 to guarantee t-shirt sizes.

While student reservations are required for the dinner and t-shirts, students will use their NSU student ID for admittance to the football game.

Family Day check-in will be at the NSU Tailgate Field beginning at 2:30 p.m. The tailgate party with live music, games and family activities will begin at 3 p.m. The tailgate meal, served from 4-5 p.m., will include hamburgers, hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad and a drink. Individual dinner tickets may be purchased for \$10. Pregame pep rally at the tailgate field will be at 5:30 p.m., followed by the pregame show in Turpin Stadium.

Siblings are invited to join their brother/sister on the field to form the tunnel for the Demon football team runout. Family

seating will be available on the east side of Turpin Stadium. Kickoff is at 6 p.m.

For a complete list of area hotels and accommodations, visit Natchitoches.com. Visitors can also download the GoNatchitoches app for iPhones or Androids. GoNatchitoches is a trip planner and community calendar that serves as an interactive way to map out everything visitors and residents want to see and do in Natchitoches.

Family Day is hosted by NSU's Office of First Year Experience. Registration is available at nsufamilyday19.eventbrite.com



## Dress to impress on Purple Friday



Mary Gaffney. Submitted photo.

**Mary Gaffney**  
Contributing Writer

Do you have nothing to wear for Purple Fridays besides a crumpled up NSU shirt you got your freshman year? Do you struggle to put together outfits that boost your confidence with every step?

Well, look no further because we have the solution you need!

Let's start out with the basics: purple. It's obvious, but that's why it's a basic.

There are so many ways to incorporate your undying loyalty to NSU and the ghost Isabella that haunts the halls, but finding accent pieces are a good start. Statement earrings have been the go-to for the past couple years, and scrunchies aren't going out of style, not when VSCO girls are memed to death.

Embrace the summer weather and try bringing out a sundress. Throw on those accent pieces: purple scrunchies on either your wrist or in your hair, purple statement earrings and maybe taller socks if you're feeling adventurous.

Pair it with either those chunky dad sneakers everyone on Instagram wears, or try wearing block heels to dress it up. The lower and thicker the heel, the more comfortable they will be to walk in.

Not in the mood to dress up? A long shirt is all you need! My personal favorite look is a men's larger Polo shirt in purple, worn as a short dress, and sneakers. It's a simple way to show your pride and keep the fashionable vibe.

And if you're uncomfortable with wearing a shirt as a dress, try either tucking it in to some jean shorts or tying in the front to create some texture. You can even experiment with a new silhouette and wear it over your jean shorts, having them peak through. French tucking is also a great way to keep your waist.

Whatever you decide, don't forget to show your pride and make sure to Fork'Em, Demons!

## Deans, department heads and professors – oh my!

### A field guide to academic titles



**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter

From provost to adjunct, the faculty of NSU and other universities have a variety of titles that define their role and seniority. With so many different titles, it can sometimes be difficult for students to understand what each one means.

At Northwestern State, the provost is the chief academic officer and the highest-ranking faculty member. Dr. Greg Handel currently holds this position.

"[The provost] oversees anything academic related: quality and integrity of academic programs and degrees, the curriculum for the degrees, proposed curriculum changes or additions and new academic initiatives," Handel said. The provost is also responsible for keeping up with local and national workforce needs and deciding where to focus academic resources in response. Finally, the provost is in charge of representing everyone from the faculty to the president of the university.

Underneath the Office of the Provost are the colleges of NSU. There are four colleges: nursing, business and technology, education, and arts and sciences. These colleges are headed by deans. For instance, Dr. Francene Lemoine is the interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Below the colleges are schools,

such as the school of creative and performing arts. Each school is led by a director, like Director of CAPA Scott Burrell.

Finally, there are departments, the smallest segments of faculty. A department head is simply that: the head of a department. One example is Melissa Aldridge, head of the accounting department.

There are also differences between the various faculty who teach classes. There are three types of teachers: adjuncts, instructors and tenure-track.

Adjuncts are considered part-time faculty. They're hired on an as-needed basis to cover classes. Instructors are similar in that they're hired on one-year contracts and are not tenure-track. If a faculty is tenure-track, it means they're working towards tenure or have already acquired it.

There are three titles for the tenure-track professors at NSU: assistant professor, associate professor and professor. These are all designated by the time spent at an institution.

Generally, a professor will begin their journey teaching at a university as an assistant professor. After about six years, they can apply for tenure and submit their application to a committee. Upon approval, they become an associate professor and are officially tenured faculty.

After six more years, tenured associate professors are generally promoted to full professors.

The differences in types of faculty at NSU can be confusing to understand at first, but Behrend Behrendsen, junior, said he wishes these titles were more well-known.

"Most students don't know the difference between the titles," Behrendsen said.



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic! Prior to coming to NSU this semester, I've never shared a room with ANYONE. Do you have any tips on how to get used to having a roommate and dealing with conflict?

**A** Here are a few tips that should help with the process of adjusting to having a roommate.

**-Get to know your roommate.** Don't go the entire semester without genuinely getting to know your roommate. It's easier to live with someone when you feel comfortable around them. What better way to do so than to get to know them?

**-Communicate with your roommate.** Communication is a vital key in any relationship. When you're able to communicate, it makes resolving conflict a bit easier.

**-Establish boundaries.** Once you set boundaries with each other, you're able to avoid conflict. When you know what bothers each other, you figure out things that you should and shouldn't do.

**-Make time in your schedule to check on your roommate.** Your roommate may get homesick, so they will look to you to help make the dorm feel like home. Be there for them!

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# Dr. Taylor: a lovable small-town spirit



Dr. Taylor answers questions while he's being interviewed. Photo taken by Trinity Velazquez.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

Dr. Dominique Taylor loves being at NSU is because it reminds him of home.

"I love the area, and I found that here people come together to work together to build something that is bigger than themselves," Taylor said.

"That was true down in South Texas. It's part of the Hispanic culture. Everybody comes together. We're smaller than everyone else, people look down on us, but no one is going to stop us."

That's what he saw when he came to NSU to interview for a faculty opening in NSU's Department of New Media, Journalism, & Communication Arts. He saw that fighting spirit just like he saw at home.

Taylor started as an assistant professor in the department this fall.

His hometown is only nine hours south from Natchitoches in

Rio Grande Valley in South Texas. After being in the Air Force for four years, he stayed in New Jersey for a while before moving back home.

Being half-Mexican is something he holds proud and dear. It works out well for him as two of his documentaries are based around the South Texas area and involve Mexican and American history.

"The first one is about how Hispanics or Mexicans took control of the political system over Anglos who were trying to keep them down, and Hispanics took over," Taylor said. "It kind of became a civil rights documentary."

This documentary, "And Then the Soldiers Were Gone," performed well.

"I think we got it in seven or eight film festivals, and it won two or three awards," Taylor said.

"Just a Ferry Ride to Freedom" is another documentary he really loves.

"Everybody knows the Underground Railroad, right?" Taylor asked. "Everybody thinks about the Underground Railroad going up to New York and Canada, but there was a southern route."

Mexico was free, he said, "but they brought in African-Americans. Mexico had tons of land but no one to work. They needed shopkeepers, they needed farmers, they needed doctors."

Free slaves needed somewhere to live, "so Mexico was like, we will

give you land for whatever you need if you come here," he said. "Mexico was welcoming free slaves."

It's an undocumented piece of history of how many escaped slaves ran through the South and into Mexico.

He's working on a third documentary, due in May, about a school that is teaching junior high through high school students the history of Mexicans and South Texas and the Mexican point of view.

As for his own Mexican heritage, "I'm a child of the eighties, and my grandparents would talk about it," Taylor said.

"You've got to remember where I grew up in the South Texas area was 85-95% Hispanic, so everybody's the same. Racism wasn't as prevalent where I am. Now it was, back in the '50s and '60s. It was very heavy, and my grandparents would talk about it."

In his work, Taylor loves telling the story of the underdog -- "the person you would look at and think that there's nothing to tell."

Regarding his own underdog status, he said he has lived a blessed life.

"I'm not privileged," Taylor said. "I've had to work for everything that I have. I've had parents who loved me and supported me. We were poor growing up, but I was never hungry. I did things to myself that made me an underdog."

He loves connecting with his students. He's connected with students for 20 years.

His style of teaching gets his students out in the field early on. The first week of school he had his students filming The Current Sauce staff members handing out newspapers.

He wants to teach his students the basics. He goes to news stations and production companies to learn what they want a graduate to know when the time comes for a job.

"They all say the same thing," Taylor said. "I want them to be hard workers, and I want them to understand storytelling."

His goal is for his students to understand that this is a tough business.

"I want them to understand that it's hard work," Taylor said. "I want their work to be shown. I want everyone in the world to see it so when they graduate, they can say that they've run stuff on KTBS and NSU TV."

He wants his students to have résumé material. He's learned several lessons throughout his life he wants to share with his students.

"When you have an opportunity, just go at it like there's no tomorrow," Taylor said. "If you want to work in this business, learn the gear, get hands on training and be loyal to the people that are loyal to you. Work your butt off when someone gives you an opportunity."



# One goal: whose?

## First-generation, nontraditional students reflect on NSU experience



**Sheridan Duet believes NSU provides many opportunities for fellow first-generation students.** Photo by Brianna Corley.

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

In the emptied hallways of Kyser, JaKayla Lee stands outside the Students Services Office, rushed between signing paper-work, attending meetings and working jobs, always, always running.

"I feel like I have more to prove," Lee said.

As a first-generation student entering her final year of NSU, Lee notes the incredible importance her family placed on her education and the undeniable pressures of being the first among them to experience university life.

Participating in work-study, 10 organizations and retaining an RA position for the last three years, she has used her efforts and energy on aiding other students in similar situations as a peer mentor in the Student Services Offices, a program which only hires first-generation students while also providing low-income and disabled students with

services.

"I can relate to people's struggle," Lee said. "A lot of first-generation students are on their own. They don't have people to help them with financial aid, and they don't understand you have to pay for housing every semester. I feel like having a community like Student Support Services and having other people really helps."

Lee said that being a first-generation student has ingrained itself so far into her identity that it affected her choice of major.

As a statistic who has proven the odds wrong, Lee wants to use the practice of law to help others who are viewed as statistics and remind them they are "so much more than a number."

While believing that various groups on campus do cultivate a sense of community among first-generation students, Lee thinks there may be a disconnect between NSU and its first-generation students.

"I feel the university may not realize the struggles first generation students do have because a lot of the people who run NSU are legacy students," Lee said. "It's generations and generations that have gone to NSU that may not necessarily understand the need for programs to help first-generation students."

Lee said services for first-generation students could include a special adviser at all Freshman Connection sessions to provide students with the sense they are not alone.

"It's not about what you know, but it's about who you know," Lee said. "At the end of the day life is what you make it. Anything worth having is worth working for."

Lee views NSU as particularly endearing to first-generation and nontraditional college students for its size and structure because it is not intimidatingly large, and students can easily meet new people.

Dexter Humphries, a junior and nontraditional student, shares the same sentiment.

"When I graduated, I didn't go straight to college," Humphries said. "I actually worked for a while. College just wasn't on my mind."

Humphries said that joining the workforce was what ultimately influenced his major, but the decision to begin college came from attending an event on campus friends had invited him to.

After realizing the sense of community among NSU students, he applied and began school the following semester.

"I always say invest in yourself first," Humphries said. "And college is an investment."

Humphries believed that as a university NSU could do better in catching students' interests through reaching out to high schools and truly explaining the depth of what college can offer.

"I don't see them personally reaching out or keeping the students' interests," Humphries said. "If I'm coming out of high school and no one in my family has been to college, I need you keep my interest."

However, Sheridan Duet, sophomore and first-generation student, believes that the university extends aid to all students with programs and engagement.

"I knew I wanted to do it," Duet said. "I knew I had to do it, but it was how to do it."

She recalled sitting in front of her computer and staring at the FAFSA form for 30 minutes at a complete loss on what to do. Her parents couldn't help her because they simply didn't know how, and that was hard on them.

From that, an intense sense of doubt brewed, but NSU's programs and offerings helped put her at ease.

"I actually attended the first-generation reception they held at the beginning of this year, and I got to talk to a lot of the new first-generation students," Duet said.

Seeing the event hosted during Demon Days was a wonderful way to remind first-generation students they have a support system in the university.

Though Duet didn't use many of the services that were offered, simply hearing the Student Services Office existed helped her adjust to college.

Duet said while the change from high school to college is hard for everyone, it is particularly jarring for first-generation students.

Despite their varying opinions, a sense of community exists between these students, and it has profoundly affected their college experience.

"It's not something that everyone knows because obviously I don't have a tag on my back saying first-generation," Duet said. "When you have that bond over that, it makes you feel like you're not alone."



# NSYou

If you could change your major, what would it be and why?



"I would change to HMT and then attempt to get a job at Disney World."

**Hailey Urena**  
Elementary Education  
Junior



"If I could change my major, it would be to culinary arts because I love to cook and hope to have my own restaurant someday!"

**Abby Vallery**  
Early Childhood Education  
Senior



"Growing up, I always wanted to be a veterinarian. As I got older, I realized I wanted to help children. I couldn't see myself doing anything else. This is what I'm passionate about."

**Elizabeth Peterson**  
Elementary Education  
Junior



"I would change to forensic science because crime TV is my obsession, but not everyone understands how much science goes into showing a case. I think it would be really neat to do that kind of work and bring justice to others."

**Rachel Chimeno**  
Elementary Education  
Junior

## Demon Debates

Will Steak n' Shake take business away from Chick-fil-A?

**Lara Schales**  
NSU Student

The new Steak 'n Shake will take business away from Chick-fil-A because as much as everyone loves the Classic Chicken Sandwich, the hype for Chick-fil-A is winding down.

Steak 'n Shake will be something new and exciting. College students, like most people, love new things. Chick-fil-A just has chicken while Steak 'n Shake has a variety of things such as milkshakes, hamburgers and a chicken sandwich. College students are also lazy, and Steak 'n Shake's on-campus location is convenient for students. Most students won't have to drive or walk across the street to get a sandwich. Most students eat at Iberville or Vic's because it is close by. It is all about convenience.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

I have only had Steak 'n Shake once or twice in my life, but I know it is good. However, it won't take business away from Chick-fil-A because you can never go wrong with Chick-fil-A.

It has every type of chicken style you could ever want. Most places sell chicken sandwiches, but chicken is their specialty.

Chick-fil-A is also healthier fast-food wise. They have better servings, and I bet that Steak 'n Shake's burgers are going to be like The Grill's: messy with an ugly amount of grease.

Steak 'n Shake's burgers are supposedly bigger than normal fast food burgers, so that means that they are heavier and fattier.

A Classic Chicken Sandwich from Chick-fil-A is \$3.49. A single milkshake from Steak 'n Shake

Steak n' Shake will accept declining balance, and that is the definition of convenience for students. The burgers might be a little more expensive, but they are bigger and better.

The lines will be long for any lunch rush hour, so it doesn't matter where someone chooses to eat. Restaurants will always be busy. I am excited for Steak 'n Shake because of the many milkshakes I know I will be able to try.

Imagine yourself eating a Steak-burger with an M&M's milkshake. That's better than eating six chicken nuggets that are about the size of a thumb with a lemonade.

Did you know that Steak 'n Shake's menu has items under four dollars? I love Chick-fil-A waffle fries as much as anyone else. No one can top their waffle fries, but Steak 'n Shake has cheese fries.

To put it simply, Chick-fil-A is about to be old news.

in \$5.79 by itself, so think about that. Chick-fil-A is cheaper and healthier.

After eating Chick-fil-A, most people don't feel guilty about whatever they just ate.

The only possible way more people might go to Steak 'n Shake would be because of location, but that means that Steak 'n Shake lines will be longer. We all know that hungry college students have no idea what the word patience means.

Longer lines also mean a greater chance for someone to mess your order up.

People at Chick-fil-A are super nice. The last thing I need is someone giving me an attitude when I am starving. Watch that happen at Steak 'n Shake, and there are going to be tons of complaints.

Also, Chick-fil-A's fries are better than anything so that alone is why Steak 'n Shake can't take business away from Chick-fil-A.

## E pluribus unum. Out of many, one.

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

In 2019, there is a clear yearning by the majority of the populous of the United States for unity. The world grows smaller and easier to understand with the continued advancement of technology, yet the lines of division grow deeper amongst our population.

The hope for an informed and unified citizenship has fallen to declarations of repeated public discourse, propagated through social media outlets. This has helped reinforce the fears of different cultural and ethnic groups, narrowing our vision to focus on ever-shrinking groups of like-minded people.

Too often do we use mass media to reinforce our close-minded idealism instead of embracing the knowledge that can be gained from the perspectives of those different from us.

Progressive groups call out the conservatives of middle America and elsewhere for the alleged perpetuation of racism, xenophobia and classism, while those on the right criticize liberals for discarding traditional values and failing to uphold the principles upon which America was founded.

While both sides have different visions for the same success of America, extreme partisanship, driven largely by the manipulation of mass media, has only gone to further exasperate these issues, often blurring the lines between what is subjectively ideal and objectively pragmatic.

Ideally, America is founded to be an equal land of liberty and justice, where the success of an individual is solely determined by their own ambition. The optimism of these ideals binds us in unity. In the wake of 9/11, Americans were united behind overt threats to our way of life and perspective.

18 years later, none of us have become less American individually. What has changed is our collective and individual faith in being able to rise and conquer these threats.

We must keep an open-mind to the perspectives of those who are different and have empathetic hearts for those who feel wronged.

We must debate, not to force our opinion upon one another, but instead to understand one another and compromise on solving issues in a way that is best representative of America and the interests of its people.

### Quote of the Week:

"Character is what you are when no one's watching."

-Jeremy McKinnon



# No, I don't talk black

Trinity Velazquez  
Viewpoints Editor

A few weeks ago, I was meeting my roommate's family while helping her move in when I overheard her grandmother mention my name.

She said, "Trinity is black, but she don't talk black."

I froze in place. It had been so long since I heard someone say something like that. I don't think anyone knows what to do or say when in such a situation.

I thought to myself, "What does that even mean?"

You can't talk a color. That's not a thing.

I don't know why we've gotten to a place where as a culture, and as a race, if you sound as though you have more than a sixth-grade education, it's a bad thing.

I won't apologize for using standard English.

Is the way I talk somehow supposed to represent my ethnicity? Does the way I speak somehow mean that I am less black than everyone else?

Maybe it means that I don't fit

the stereotype of a black person. When thinking of a black person, you may imagine the "ghetto" accent because apparently that is how people distinguish the light-skinned from the dark-skinned.

I don't have to prove my blackness to anyone or show anyone my "black card." I am so tired of people my own race telling me that I'm not black because I don't listen to rap or because my hair isn't kinky.

Not every black person talks the same or likes the same things.

I am not afraid to admit that I think Taylor Swift's new album is incredible or that I use sunscreen so I don't get burned. Melanin is great, but it can't always protect me.

My dad likes to joke and say I am the whitest black person that anyone could ever meet, but that doesn't mean that I'm not black.

I am very much aware of the stereotypes that come with being brown-skinned. I feel so out of place sometimes because I feel I'm too dark for my white friends but too light for my dark friends.

I will admit that sometimes I

don't understand what slang my black friends use. I don't always know what song they play in the car, let alone who the artist is. I don't text or use lots of emojis the way they do, and I get made fun of.

I don't mind though. Watching them sing along and scream the lyrics at the top of their lungs while moving side to side is one of my favorite things about them.

I like learning what products they use for their natural hair and what kind of weaves are their favorites. They love styling my hair and suggesting what extensions I should get if I ever wanted some.

These are my friends though, so I don't have to prove how black I am to them. They love me for who I am as do my white friends. I am a mix of both worlds, and I am proud of that.

I don't talk black, and I don't talk white. No one can talk a color. We all have a different way of speaking to one another.

Blackness comes in all shades, cultures, classes and experiences. There's no guide to being black.

Language, much like my blackness, is universal.

## Voter registration deadlines fast approaching for gubernatorial primary election



**Tyler Brey**  
Press Secretary for the state of Louisiana

Secretary of State Kyle Ardoin is reminding Louisianians that the deadlines to register to vote in the Oct. 12 Gubernatorial Primary Election are fast approaching. The in person or by mail deadline is Wednesday, Sept. 11, and the online deadline is Saturday, Sept. 21. These deadlines are for citizens who have never registered to vote as well as voters who would like to make changes to their registration.

Citizens can register to vote online at [www.GeauxVote.com](http://www.GeauxVote.com); at your parish's Registrar of Voters Office; while obtaining services at the Office of Motor Vehicles, public assistance agencies, public schools, colleges and libraries; or by mail. Louisianians can also utilize our smartphone app, GeauxVote Mobile, to access registration, ballot and polling place information.

After registering, voters should download the GeauxVote Mobile smartphone app. The app provides registration information as well as voting districts, sample ballots, polling place information and election results.

Early voting for the Gubernatorial Primary Election is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28 through Saturday, Oct. 5, excluding Sunday, Sept. 29, from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information about the Secretary of State's Elections Division, visit [www.GeauxVote.com](http://www.GeauxVote.com) or call 225.922.0900.

### Searchin' the Sauce Word Search

S	Y	L	D	G	Q	G	P	U	I	S	W	V	B	A	M	A	A
V	O	T	D	S	N	N	O	Z	B	Z	T	R	I	S	V	C	U
E	M	C	L	B	M	K	T	X	E	I	G	D	E	Z	B	A	M
X	F	J	C	N	Q	P	P	T	R	S	Z	T	N	H	S	D	Z
P	L	O	S	E	H	T	O	A	V	L	G	N	V	J	T	E	I
V	P	W	O	D	R	V	U	B	I	R	H	T	E	D	U	M	P
R	A	V	E	T	F	Q	R	Z	L	X	C	V	N	W	D	I	G
B	R	C	R	O	B	G	R	W	L	J	O	G	U	I	E	C	V
D	G	A	M	Z	S	A	I	N	E	P	D	K	I	B	N	S	C
F	U	A	N	V	O	L	L	E	Y	B	A	L	L	P	T	T	Z
Z	S	O	K	L	K	G	Z	L	R	R	F	H	O	B	S	T	X
E	U	B	U	D	B	E	H	G	P	F	B	C	H	Q	A	R	F

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden ➔ ⬇ and ↘ .

VOLLEYBALL  
IBERVILLE  
ACADEMICS  
POTPOURRI

STUDENTS  
BIENVENU  
FOOTBALL  
SOCCER

ARGUS



# Athlete of the Week: Shelton Eppler

**Briyonna Collins**  
KNWD Sports Director

Shelton Eppler transferred to NSU in fall 2018. Having never played in Division I athletics, the junior quarterback quickly made a name for himself.

In his first season with the university, Eppler started in nine games and threw for 26 touchdowns. He received honorable mention for Southland All-Conference and All-Louisiana and quickly showed the Demon fans that he was a player to watch.

He proved to be a force to be reckoned with in the 2019 season opener against UT Martin.

Though the game resulted in a loss, Eppler set two new school records with 43 completions and 62 attempts while rising to second in the school's history for throwing 387 yards.



**Eppler set two new school records with 43 completions and 62 attempts.**

*Photo by Chris Reich.*

Eppler said that he hasn't always played in the quarterback position.

In high school he told his coaches he wanted to try out for quarterback, and they denied him the opportunity. After being denied, he didn't think he wanted to play

anymore since he didn't get the chance to try out.

The coaches eventually gave him the opportunity, and his journey led him to NSU.

Eppler's advice to his younger self is to "Keep working, and don't

let someone tell you you can't do something. If you have the determination to keep going and working, you can always do what you want."

Many have doubted his abilities because of his build, but he's proved himself and proudly holds the position of quarterback.

"I love the pressure just because it shows who steps up in the times or who breaks and crumbles," Eppler said.

He believes that as the quarterback it is his job to stay poised, be the "consistent leader" and always give the same effort no matter win or lose.

"Without (the Demon football supporters) support, we wouldn't be in this position," Eppler said.

The Demon football team will play against LSU Saturday in Tiger Stadium with kickoff starting at 6:30 p.m.

As always Fork' em Demons!

## Fans prepare for the NSU v. LSU game Saturday

**Albert Hewitt**  
Contributing Writer

There is no doubt that "Death Valley" may be intimidating to some, but Northwestern State fans won't let that stop them from traveling to Baton Rouge to cheer on the Demons.

This will be the first matchup between the two teams since 2011. The teams have faced off a total of 11 times, dating all the way back to 1911.

There are a few things that connect the two schools besides being

in the same state.

LSU head coach Ed Orgeron is no stranger to Northwestern State. After signing to play football at LSU in 1979, Orgeron transferred to NSU after his freshman year. He was a defensive lineman at NSU for three years.

After earning his degree, Orgeron stuck around NSU for one more year as a grad assistant. Coach O is a Demon at heart.

Standout wide receiver Jazz Ferguson also transferred to Northwestern State from LSU. Ferguson had an epic season for the Demons in 2018 before eventually getting signed to the Seattle Seahawks' practice squad.

Some fans feel conflicted because they are fans of both schools.

"I started my collegiate career at NSU before transferring to LSU," LSU senior Brandon Phillips said. "I'll always have love for my De-

mon family, but I've also grown to love LSU. I'll have to find a way to root for both teams."

Many people grow naturally into LSU fans simply because they are from Louisiana. It's not rare to find NSU fans who also share the same love for LSU.

"I've been an LSU fan my entire life, but when I became a student at NSU the Tigers were bumped down to number two in my heart," NSU senior Joe Bradley said.

Bradley isn't the only student who feels this way.

"Although I love LSU, I'll be rooting for my demons when the time comes," NSU senior Darius Brock said.

Demon fans will make their presence known when they head down to Baton Rouge on Saturday. The Demons will face off against the Tigers on Sept. 14 beginning at 6:30 pm.

### GAME SCHEDULE

#### Football

9/14/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Baton Rouge, LA  
vs. LSU

#### Volleyball

9/12/19 3:20 p.m.  
@College Station, TX  
vs. University of Texas  
Rio Grande Valley

9/13/19 10:00 a.m.  
@College Station, TX  
vs. Texas A&M  
University

9/13/19 5:00 p.m.  
@College Station, TX  
vs. Texas A&M  
University

#### Soccer

9/13/19 7:00 p.m.  
@Natchitoches, LA  
vs. Texas State

9/15/19 1:00 p.m.  
@Natchitoches, LA  
vs. UL Lafayette

## Editorial Board

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Brianna Corley  
**Arts and Living Editor**

Trinity Velazquez  
**Viewpoints Editor**

Brianna Fife  
**Visual Editor**

Anson Ballow  
**Sports Editor**  
Mekayla Jenkins  
**Photo Editor**





## New construction site on campus is for LSMSA dorms



Construction for the new LSMSA dorms are taking place behind the Watson library. Photo by Kathleen Hilliard.

**Kahtleen Hilliard**  
Reporter

According to Executive Director of LSMSA Steve Horton, recent construction of the new LSMSA dorm is expected to reach completion in the next two years.

The new dorms will house 360 LSMSA students across 125,000 square feet, three wings and four floors. The dorms will also feature kitchens, study rooms, a gaming room, a health center and quiet rooms throughout the building. The goal is to create a living and learning space for the students.

The decision to build the new dorm was finalized after it was revealed that the cost of renovating the hazardous standing dormitories would cost more than simply building a new one.

"We're holding Prudhomme Hall and Caddo Hall together with masking tape at this point," Horton said. "They've lived their nine lives

plus more."

Both halls currently hold approximately 362 students.

The land, also known as Eagle Field, was traded to LSMSA 15 years ago alongside other areas on NSU's campus. In return, NSU would receive funding for the power plant that is on the backside the campus.

"From what I understand, NSU intends to tear down both dorms after we release the land there back to them once the dorm is completed," said Horton.

Students have noticed the lack of the sidewalk conveniently leading students from the side of Fournet Hall directly to the library. Some students have expressed their concern or discontentment with the changes.

"It's more dangerous since there isn't a sidewalk the whole way there," senior Colin Carline said. "I have to walk in the middle of the road part of the way to the library. I was always used to getting my frapp's from there, and now I can't

because the walk is so long."

Steve Horton said plans for new sidewalks will be fulfilled in the later parts of construction.

"There will be sidewalks constructed around the residence hall and towards the library," Horton said.

Other students, like junior Elena Farabough, haven't noticed a drastic issue.

"Since I don't have a car, I am very much used to walking," Farabough said. "It doesn't inconvenience me since most of my classes are right there in Bienvenu. At first, it was uncomfortable since we [the students] didn't have much of a warning, but it didn't take long for me to adjust. It's nice to know what it is."

Horton also disclosed that LSMSA doesn't discourage NSU students walking through the high school if they need to even though the buildings themselves are designed for only the LSMSA students and staff to enter.

## New state-wide hazing laws passed



**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Louisiana's legislature has passed stricter hazing laws that are being implemented on NSU's campus.

The Max Gruver Act makes hazing a crime with offenders facing up to \$1000 in fines, up to six months in prison, or both. If the crime results in serious bodily injury, death or forced alcohol consumption resulting in a blood alcohol level of .30 and above, the fine increases to up to \$10,000 and five years in prison.

Witnesses caught not reporting the incident can face fines and imprisonment now as well.

"The new laws are being made to protect students at any level of membership in any student organization, not just fraternities and sororities, and I believe that's a very important step for effective legislation being in place for Louisiana," Matt Pass, interfraternity council president said.

As part of the new laws, each member of every organization on campus must attend at least one hour of hazing prevention training. Jacob Norris, member of Pi Kappa Phi fraternity, said he thinks the new laws were necessary.

"It ensures that the members are being held responsible for each other and their own personal safety," Norris said.

Greg Burke, director of athletics, said one of the main differences in the new hazing laws is that the level of accountability is increasing. Burke said the athletics department takes these laws seriously.

"I talk to our student athletes about the fact that it's about respecting the people around you," Burke said. "As an administrator on this campus, if I don't know the name Max Gruver and what that means, I'm not doing my job."

**\*\*Correction:** "New faces prepare to take center stage" from issue three Trevor McEvo is Trevor McEaton.

**\*\*The cover photo from issue three is from <https://commons.wikimedia.org/>**



# What the fork is there to do in Natty?



**Bobbie Jane Manchester, Samantha Clark, Scott Maggio, Regan Edwards, and Madysen Watts at Mama's and Papa's. Submitted Photo.**

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Aside from tailgating and the big game, what exactly is there to do in Natchitoches on the weekend? Have no fear. Natchitoches has much more to provide than bright Christmas lights and purple pride.

## Natchitoches Skating Rink

Located on Keyser Ave., the Natchitoches Skating Rink provides as much fun as it does entertainment. Gather up your friends and watch as the strong from the weak are separated for a hilarious time of falling down and learning to get back up again.

The rink is open on Saturday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. and Sunday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. with a fee of \$8.

## Country Lanes Bowling Center

Test out your skills against your friends for the ultimate title of bowling champ! Located at 5200 Highway 1, Country Lanes Bowling Center promises a night of friendly competition.

Operating hours are: Monday and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., Friday from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday from noon to midnight and Sunday from 2 p.m. from 10 p.m.

Open play is \$5.90 per game, and rental shoes are \$3.50 per pair.

If you want to experience glow

1 hour Matinee	1 1/2 hour Cruise
Friday: 1-2 P.M. Saturday: 1-2 P.M. Sunday: 1-2 P.M.	Saturday Morning: 10-11:30 A.M. Friday Evening: 6-7:30 P.M. Saturday Evening: 6-7:30 P.M. Sunday Evening: 6-7:30 P.M.
Adults: \$15 Youth (13-17): \$12 Children (5-12): \$7 Under 4 and under: free With valid ID: \$12 SENIORS 55+, Military, First Responders, College Students	Adults: \$20 Youth (13-17): \$17 Children (5-12): \$12 Under 4 and under: free With valid ID: \$17 SENIORS 55+, Military, First Responders, College Students

**Prices and times for movies and for the Cane River Queen.** Graphic by Samantha Clark.

bowling, go in from 10 p.m. to midnight on Saturday. The glow blowing charge is \$16 and includes the \$3 cover charge. There is a \$3 cover charge if you do not bowl.

There is also a golf simulator in Country Lanes. Call Ken for reservations at 318-663-0292 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pricing for the simulator is: \$30 for one player for one hour, \$55 for two players for two hours and \$100 for four players for four hours. Special time of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. is \$25.00 per player per hour.

## Parkway Cinema 6

Want a movie night that isn't in someone's living room? Go out for popcorn at Parkway Cinema 6. Also making its home on Keyser Ave., this theater provides big time movies to Natchitoches. A standard ticket costs \$8.75, but Parkway Cinema 6 also offers \$5 Tuesdays!

## Bayou Pierre Alligator Park

Take a true ride down the bayou at Natchitoches's own alligator

park! An immersive experience including a show and café located on Old Bayou Pierre Road, make sure not to miss out as this season will close October 13 and not reopen until April.

The park is currently open on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$8.95.

## Front Street

Saving the best for last, Front Street is always filled to the brim with excitement. Front Street is home to multiple restaurants and shops on the street, the Cane River Queen cruises and horse carriage tours through Cane River Carriage Company. Eat ice cream by the riverside and watch the ducks, listen for the sound of music drifting into the streets from live music vendors during sunset and maybe even venture to find its source. Also watch for festivals!

Cane River Queen cruises vary from a one-hour matinee cruise to a ninety-minute cruise.

To experience a horse carriage tour, call ahead for tour times at 601-807-9086. Adults tickets are \$15, and tickets for children under the age of 11 are \$10.

Whether you prefer spending your nights supporting Demon athletics, choose to take advantage of the fun provided on this list or simply wish to stay in with friends, always remember the college experience is what you choose to make it!

## Survive fall fashion in the Louisiana heat

**Mary Gaffney**  
Contributing Writer

It's September, yet I'm already feeling those fall vibes in this heat. To avoid a heat stroke while chugging those pumpkin spice lattes and waiting for candy corn to be an acceptable food group, I deal with my fall crisis of what to wear.

It's too hot to start getting bundled up in sweaters, boots and fuzzy socks, so let's start with a small fall trend: darker colors.

Yeah, we've talked about VSCO girls, so now let's move on to how to dress like the e-girl of my childhood dreams. We've all had those emo moments, and gen Z is bringing it back.

To get that spooky autumn vibe without the layers, simply wear darker colors, but keep it short to survive in the Louisiana heat. Don't be afraid to wear all black if you're really in the Halloween mood. Yes, it's September, but Halloween is not just a holiday – it's a state of mind.

To show off the length of your legs, wear shorts with a sweater or a shirt either tucked in or tied at the waist.

Boots are a great way to keep the fall feels coming, so pair your favorite fall boots with something that could be considered a little summery but in darker colors. Emerald green, navy blue and deep burgundy can bring a pop of autumn out in any outfit, no matter the length.

The tone of your outfit can really be set by a simple piece like a dark silk slip dress paired with boots and a belt.

Sweater dresses are a staple for fall, pumpkins and all things festive. Try a short-sleeved sweater dress, or long sleeved if you know your hot weather limits, either tied at the bottom or with a belt to cinch in your waist to give you more of a figure.

If you're feeling adventurous, play with new silhouettes! Try wearing a sweater over a skirt, but instead of tucking it in, go with the A-line look and leave it out.

Let's get fall and festive, everyone!



# Meet your student media leaders:

## Megan Palmer, Potpourri

Over the next month, meet your student media leaders will be a recurring feature section highlighting the editors and general manager of NSU's media outlets.



**Megan Palmer is a senior and second-year editor in chief of NSU's official yearbook, the Potpourri. Submitted photo.**

### Trinity Velazquez Viewpoints Editor

Megan Palmer is a senior and second-year editor in chief of NSU's official yearbook, the Potpourri.

When she first joined the Potpourri in fall 2016, she was named the freshman scholar. This position taught her about the different and important areas of our yearbook. She learned how to write stories, take photos and design each page.

"It was an amazing experience because it taught me that yearbooks are not just for high school and below but for everyone young and old," Palmer said.

She wanted to become editor in chief because it would be an experience and opportunity that would enhance her passion for yearbook, and it has.

"I was an editor back at my alma mater, Many High, but that could not compare to what an editor in chief of a college yearbook was responsible for," she said.

She hopes to publish a yearbook that will help people remember the times they had at NSU forever. She wants the people of NSU to be able to look back and know that without them the history of NSU would not be possible.

Her first year of being editor in

chief taught her that managing a staff and meeting deadlines are a lot harder than it looks.

"It is hard being a leader over a group of people who are around the same age as myself," Palmer said. "There is a fine line of being their friend and being their boss, and that line can become hazy. Deadlines are a beast within itself. Now I know if your staff is as passionate about their work as you are then deadlines are met and managing a staff becomes that much easier."

For Palmer, the hardest part about being editor in chief is making decisions that could make or break something. She has been in a leadership position before in high school, but in college she could never get used to it.

"I have to get out of my comfort zone and talk to people who I would never speak to in my life," she said. "I went from being one of the club members to managing a staff of about 18 people. No one can really prepare you for this position. You just dive in and rely on the people who are there to help guide you."

Palmer said that she never could have overcome any obstacle without Kenneth Burns, the student media advisor.

"Him being there during my break downs and the 'I don't know what to do's' helped me make sure the book was done on time," she said.

With his advice and guidance, she was able to overcome and conquer any situation. Her loved

ones also helped with listening and gave advice when needed.

"Talking with staff members helps too with figuring problems out and giving me another point of view," Palmer said.

One of her favorite parts about working with her staff is when they are in a meeting and talk about what stories to put in the yearbook. Since everyone comes from different backgrounds, they all have something to bring to the table. Ideas start bouncing around, and soon they have up to 15 story ideas.

"It makes me so happy seeing their faces light up when given the chance to suggest ideas on how to make the yearbook better," she said.

Her favorite memory is when she sees people first pick up the yearbook. She likes to watch as students search through the yearbook to find themselves or to reminisce on memories of a particular page.

"It never gets old for me to see people smile as they walk away with something my staff members made through their hard work and dedication," Palmer said.

The most rewarding parts of being editor in chief are the connections and friends she has made through this position.

"I am a shy, introverted person, but this job has made me come out of my shell to do things I would have never dreamed of doing," Palmer said.

She hopes everyone can see that this yearbook has the passion

and determination of the NSU community shown through each page.

"Working on the yearbook has impacted me in ways I couldn't describe," Palmer said. "I have gained confidence, leadership skills, connections and so many other things that can help me in the future. Any one should be on a yearbook staff at least once in their lifetime."

The future of the Potpourri looks ever-changing in her mind.

"Every new year, new people, new staff and even a new (editor in chief) changes the whole outlook of a yearbook," Palmer said. "As the world changes, the Potpourri will adapt and improve from the past year. I want it to become so amazing that we win awards to show off the talent of the Potpourri."

Palmer has many goals she wants to accomplish after she graduates in May 2020. She plans to work for the Disney company in the fall of 2020 and hopefully the spring of 2021.

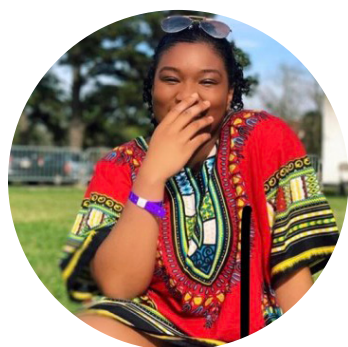
"I want to experience making the magic that has always made me believe that anything is possible with faith, trust and a little bit of pixie dust," Palmer said.

Afterwards, if she can't land a full-time job with Disney, she wants to work for Balfour as a yearbook representative.

"I will never be able to get rid of my love for yearbooks, so I want to help others who love yearbook as much as I do," Palmer said.



# Meet your Current Sauce staff



**Mekayla Jenkins**  
Sophomore  
Photo Editor  
Gemini

"The best thing you can do is keep going."

**Brianna Corley**  
Sophomore  
Arts and Living Editor  
Leo

"He lives the poetry he cannot write. The others write the poetry they dare not realize." - Oscar Wilde



**Emily Snyder**  
Sophomore  
Assistant Visual Editor  
Aries

"My words fly up, My thoughts remain below: Words without thought never to heave go." - Hamlet

**Brianna Fife**  
Sophomore  
Visual Editor  
Aquarius

"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." Revelation 21:4

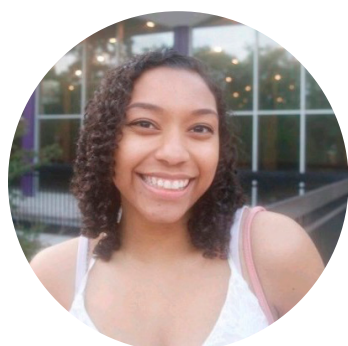


**Leanna Coy**  
Sophomore  
News Editor  
Scorpio

"You gotta yee the haw before the haw yees you."

**Kathleen Hilliard**  
Senior  
Reporter  
Cancer

"Never apologize for being sensitive or emotional. Let this be a sign that you have a big heart and aren't afraid to let others see it. Showing your emotions is a sign of strength." - Brigitte Nicole

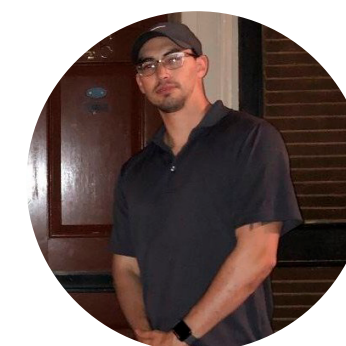


**Trinity Velazquez**  
Junior  
Viewpoints Editor  
Aries

"Life is a succession of moments. To live each one is to succeed." - Corita Kent

**Thomas Celles**  
Senior  
Reporter  
Virgo

"I would like to die on Mars. Just not on impact." - Elon Musk



**Samantha Clark**  
Senior  
Editor in Chief  
Gemini

"Character is what you are when no one's watching." - Jeremy McKinnon

**Madelyn Dupont**  
Junior  
Marketing Director  
Virgo

"Don't worry about a thing because every little thing is gonna be alright." - Bob Marley





## NSYou

If you could change Steak 'n Shake to your favorite restaurant, what would it be and what would you order?



"Arby's because after Hardy's closed down there's been a lack of curly fries in Natchitoches. I would definitely order the loaded curly fry."

**Dara Woods**  
Biology  
Senior



"McAlister's, and I would order the Orange Cranberry Club with no tomatoes."

**Matt Giering**  
Communications  
Senior



"Pancake World, where you can eat all you can eat pancakes! I would order chocolate chip pancakes with sprinkles."

**Sheridan Douglas**  
History  
Junior



"I would change it to Jambalaya Shoppe because I can then get as much jambalaya, pastalaya and gumbo as I want for 'home away from home' food."

**Zoe Tapp**  
Hospitality, management, and tourism  
Sophomore

# Demon Debates

Should JUULs® be allowed on campus?

**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter

NSU property, similar to other state facilities, is a tobacco-free zone. The policy, as it is today, went into effect on April 1, 2014. The ban currently encompasses all kinds of smoke producing products as well as one odd inclusion: e-cigarettes and vapes.

Cigarettes, pipes and other products rely on flames and release a large quantity of smoke and odor, so banning them is not comparable to banning a small, subtle and unobtrusive device that releases no smell and little to no obvious "smoke."

The only valid reason a facility should have to ban something from their grounds is for safety or prevention of a public nuisance. That is why it makes sense that cigarettes and other actual tobacco products are banned.

Smoking cigarettes, especially indoors, can lead to second-hand smoke, a terrible smell and an

actual open flame.

A JUUL®, however, carries none of these risks. The slight wisp of vapor is almost unnoticeable. The vapor dissipates so quickly. It carries no risk to others in the vicinity for second-hand smoke.

Further, any slight smell released by the vapor is more akin to candle scents than that of burning tobacco.

I am not advocating for the open carry and use of large, laptop-sized vapes which release enough vapor to power a small weather system. Students, faculty and staff should not be creating clouds in the classroom.

I am simply saying the application of the current ban to the extremely unobtrusive device known as a JUUL® is pointless as they neither impact safety nor are a nuisance.

The only person's health they impact is that of the user, which is well within their rights. JUULs® should not be included in the over-encompassing ban on tobacco products on NSU's campus.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

are marketed as safer than regular cigarettes, they are not risk-free.

I don't think JUULs® should be completely banned on campus. Just because something is prohibited doesn't mean that people are going to stop. It just means that they will find ways around the rule.

I think that JUULs® should be kept under observation since it's still new.

I don't mean that students should be watched or tested, but our campus should be a safe place so that if something does happen and the accident is caused by a vape, campus police and other people are already there to help.

That doesn't mean that students get the chance to go overboard, but it gives students a sense of responsibility with it.

I do think that JUULs® are harmful to users and the people around them. Students around our age are now dying from smoking JUULs®. Think about that.

## Student media is a safe place for students

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

The Student Law Press Center has named 2019 "the Year of the Student Journalist."

Student media is essential to college campuses, but it is not treated as such. Most university newspapers are student-run, which gives many students an opportunity to put their foot in the real world while still having the comfort of professors and advisers to help them.

Most people don't understand what goes into publishing a paper weekly. I spend every day in the student media office writing and learning how to edit articles. Editing is a whole skill in itself.

The life of student journalists and of the student press is not easy.

We have never allowed government control of what general news outlets can report, so why can't student journalism be the same way?

The government can't control news outlets because of the First Amendment, so student media should be treated with the same fairness.

Student journalism is always being threatened by censorship, retaliation, lack of access and budget cuts. It is cast aside, and most people do not take it seriously.

Student journalists should not be reprimanded for what they publish because a member of that college administration has a problem with the reporting, especially if the topic is something students should be aware about.

Student media is the only platform where we, as students, can freely publish whatever thought we have without fear of getting in trouble or being judged. Students can show their vulnerable side through poetry with Argus or voice their opinion with the Current Sauce.

Student media is a safe space, and we all need one right now.

With the power of social media, students are more aware than ever of what is going on in their world. Social media is powerful, but every power has its limits.

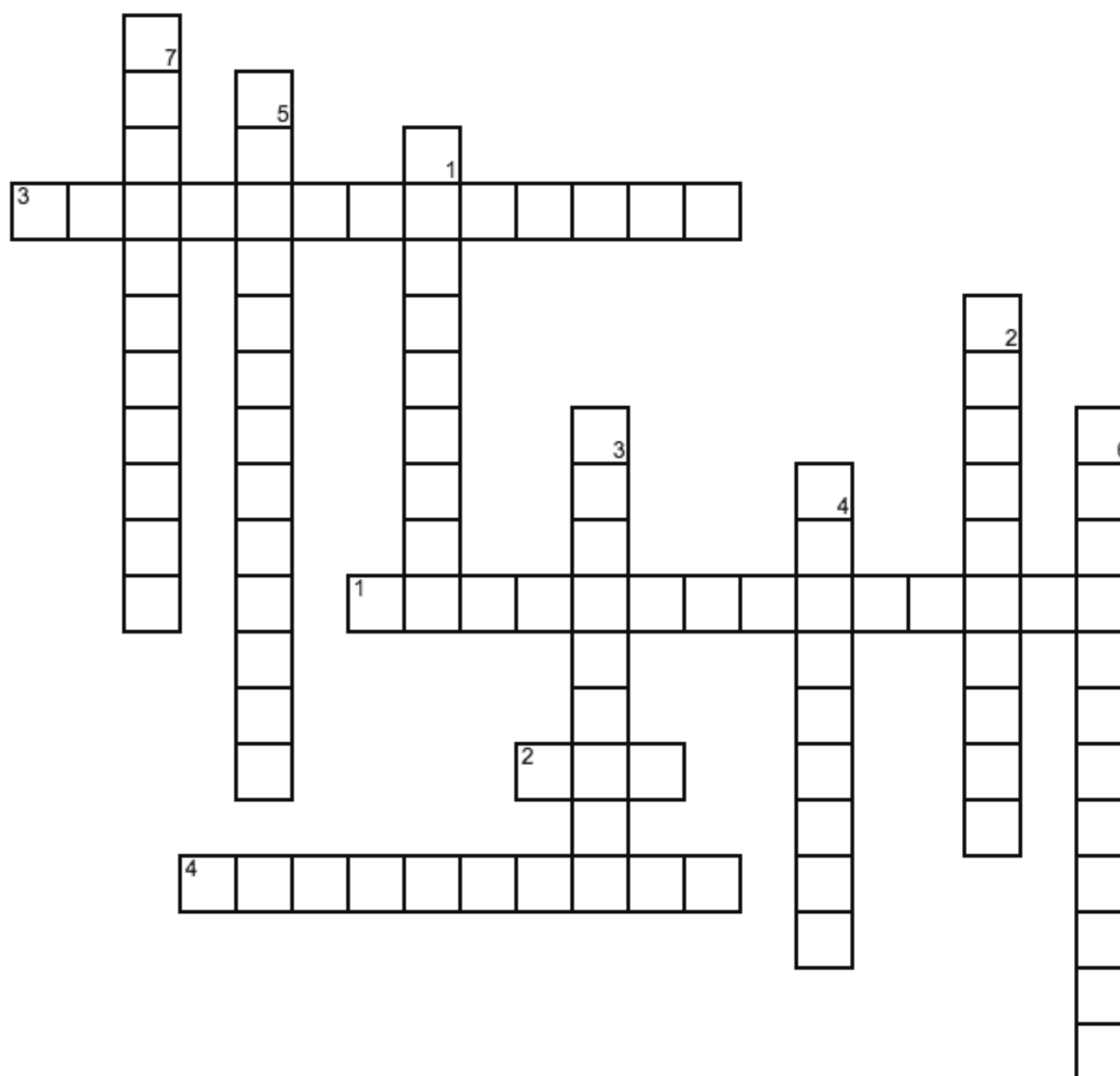
Students have every right to express their opinion, and no one should have the power to say whether or not that opinion is valid. Every student opinion is valid.

Student media is by the students, for the students.

Student media is needed now more than ever.



# Finish the crossword to know some of NSU's Devoted Demons



## Across

1. Miss Lady of the Bracelet
2. NSU's Official Mascot
3. Director of Greek Life
4. New Provost

## Down

1. 19th President of NSU
2. Current President of SGA
3. NSU Head football coach
4. Director of PLP
5. Director of FYE
6. Director of Academic Services
7. Editor in Chief of the Potpourri



## Hallie Field earns Southland Conference Defensive Player of the Week



Photo from NSUdemons.com.

### Jonathon Zenk

NSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant

NATCHITOCHES—A good week for the Northwestern State soccer team was made even better, as freshman Hallie Field was named Southland Conference Defender of the Week Tuesday, the league announced.

It is the first weekly honor in her young career, and the first for the Lady Demons (3-5) since Brittany Caserma won SLC Offensive Player of the Week last September. She is the first player for NSU to be named Defensive Player of the Week since Patry Carrion in October 2016.

"We're really happy for Hallie," co-head coach Jess Jobe said. "She is a threat offensively as well, scoring the winner against Texas State. We're proud of how Hallie has played."

"She is very deserving of this recognition. It was a team effort. Hallie is getting recognition, but the players around her deserve credit as well. Hallie, Natalee (Henry) and Nicole (Henry) have played really well as a unit."

On Friday, the Frisco, Texas, native scored the only goal against Texas State in a 1-0 win, heading a shot in from the box off a corner kick from Maddie Scott.

She helped lead a defense that allowed a combined one goal in back-to-back wins against Texas State and UL Lafayette, playing all 200 minutes in the two victories.

NSU begins its Southland Conference slate Friday when it travels to Nacogdoches, Texas, to take on rival Stephen F. Austin.

## Lady Demons take second, men fifth at Louisiana Tech Mook 4 Invitational



Mike Alukunyang and Clayton Casner.

### Mark Fox

RUSTON – Northwestern State University men's and women's cross country teams faced off against several teams this morning in Ruston in the Louisiana Tech Mook 4 Invitational.

Out of the six teams, the Lady Demons, who won this event the past two years, finished second in the 4000 meters with 77 team points to Jackson State's 37.

The Lady Demons were led by junior Isabella (Izzy) Hudson after missing the first meet on August 31 versus Stephen F. Austin because of a minor illness. Hudson finished seventh out of the 39 total runners with a time of 16:20.3.

Head coach De'Shalyn Jones was pleased with the women's per-

formance and Hudson in particular. "This was Izzy's first race of the season," Jones said. "I think she's pretty excited about where she's at, but she always feels like she can do better. This is a good place to start."

For the Lady Demons, Hudson was followed by freshman Nijha Composto (14th, 17:11.5), freshman Bronwyn Buchanan (19th, 17:27.8), freshman Olivia Slayter (20th, 17:37.9), and freshman Olivia Sipes (22nd, 17:55.3).

For the women's team race, Louisiana Tech finished third with 79 points, followed by Louisiana-Monroe with 83, Grambling with 87, and Mississippi Valley with 138.

The men finished fifth out of six in their four mile race with 93 points. The Louisiana Tech Bulldogs finished first with 32 points, followed by Louisiana-Monroe with 60, and Grambling and Jackson State tied for third with 89. Mississippi Valley came in sixth with 130.

The top finisher for the Demons

was junior transfer Mike Alukunyang, who came in 17th of 40 with a time of 22:57.6. Alukunyang was immediately followed by sophomore Clayton Casner (18th, 23:01.8). Other Demon finishers were freshman Payten Vidourek (20th, 23:20.8), sophomore Alex Melcer (23rd, 23:53.8), and junior Darius Groves (25th, 24:22.1).

Jones was pleased overall with both her teams' performances and felt that they showed more competitiveness than they did in the first meet in Nacogdoches, Texas. "I felt like they competed more than they did two weeks ago. They competed more and executed better," Jones said.

Jones is looking forward to practice over the next couple of weeks before their next meet, with a continued emphasis on race tempo. She said, "We're probably going to go more race pace so we can be better prepared for meets."

The Demons and Lady Demons run again in Lake Charles on Saturday, September 28 in the Lake Charles Toyota Cowboy Stampede.



# Demon spirit stays alive in Tiger Stadium



Shelton Eppler was able to find a wide open David Fitzwater in the back of the end zone for a 26-yard touchdown. Photo by Brianna Fife.

**Albert Hewitt**  
Contributing Writer

Sept. 14 was an eventful day in Baton Rouge for college football. The Demons stepped into “Death Valley” to take on the Tigers, who are nationally ranked number four.

Before heading into the stadium to enjoy a nice night of football, Demon fans also got the chance to tailgate.

Many gathered around the NSU tents where the Alumni Association hosted its tailgate.

After tailgating took place, Demon fans headed over to Tiger Stadium to catch the action.

Demon fans showed up in numbers in the stadium that fits up

to 102,000 fans. Although there was a lot of purple in the stands, you couldn’t help but notice the sprinkle of orange that also stood out.

The Demons never let the national rank of the Tigers fog their vision.

“This is just another opportunity for us to get better, that is always our focal point,” Head Coach Brad Laird said in a press release before the game.

Coach Laird prepares his team the same way each week, no matter what team is on the other side of the field.

The Demons stayed true to their motto “never yield.” Yielding is definitely one thing that the Demons did not do on Saturday night.

The Tigers received possession of the ball first on Saturday evening, and that’s when things began to get exciting.

The Demons were able to hold the Tigers to a field goal on their

first possession.

After holding the Tigers to three, the Demons were able to score the first touchdown of the game during the first quarter. Shifting the momentum, Shelton Eppler connected with Quan Shorts on a 17-yard pass.

Eppler to Shorts is a connection that Demon fans have already seen a lot of this season, but on Saturday the two made a play that shocked the nation. After the touchdown by Shorts, the Demons officially had a lead on the number four ranked team in the nation.

The Demons were able to hold the tigers to just three points in the opening quarter. This was a shock to LSU fans simply because they watched the Tigers score 21 points in their home opener.

Although the Tigers responded with two offensive touchdowns, the Demons were not done yet.

During the second quarter, Shelton Eppler was able to find a

wide open David Fitzwater in the back of the end zone for a 26-yard touchdown. This would be the last Demon touchdown of the game, but the Demons kept the fight alive.

Tiger quarterback Joe Burrow is one of the early Heisman candidates for this year’s award, but the Demons made sure they had a say in the discussion.

Late in the second quarter Dylan Wilson was able to catch only the second interception that Joe Burrow has thrown all season.

The Tigers came out determined to make changes in the second half. They scored six second-half touchdowns, and their defense was able to force a shutout.

Although the Demons didn’t come out on top, they got better as a team and have a lot of positives to take into opening week of conference play.

The Demons open up conference play against Houston Baptist on Sept. 21 beginning at 6 p.m.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Soccer

9/20/19 7:00 p.m.  
@Nacogdoches, TX  
vs. Stephen F. Austin

### Football

9/21/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston Baptist

### Volleyball

9/19/19 6:00 a.m.  
@Natchitoches, LA  
vs. Prairie View A&M  
9/20/19 5:30 p.m.  
@Atlanta, GA  
vs. Georgia State  
9/21/19 1:00 a.m.  
@Atlanta, GA  
vs. Brown University

## Editorial Board

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## NSU students compete in Lady of the Bracelet on Friday



Jourdan Waddell crowned Lady of the Bracelet in 2018. Photo from [www.natchitochestime.com](http://www.natchitochestime.com).

### Mekayla Jenkins

Photo Editor

The Miss Northwestern Lady of the Bracelet Scholarship Program will be held Friday at 3 p.m. in the Treen Auditorium at the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and The Arts.

The eight women competing for this year's title are Avery Debelak of Shreveport, Mary Gaffney of Metairie, Ashley Henry and Victoria Hickman of Slidell, Madeline Hensley of Anacoco, Kanica Irchirl of Natchitoches, Gabrielle Mockerman of Bossier City and Sarah Shiflett of Covington.

The Lady of the Bracelet pageant is one of Northwestern State University's longest standing traditions.

Dr. Yonna Pasch, director

of student activities, began her journey on Lady of the Bracelet as a graduate student in 2001 and became the director of Lady of the Bracelet in 2004.

"We pride ourselves on tradition, so not much has changed," Pasch said.

Lady of the Bracelet began in 1958 as a beauty pageant where the winner would receive a gold bracelet with her name and year engraved on the charm. The bracelet is passed down from each winner to the next winner every year. Each Lady of the Bracelet receives a replica charm after she passes down the crown.

In 1971, Lady of the Bracelet became more than a beauty pageant. It became a branch of Miss America.

"It's more than a pageant," Pasch said. "It's a job. They are no longer contestants but candidates because now they are applying for a job in a sense."

Lady of the Bracelet is a scholarship opportunity in which the women involved must be

interviewed, have a talent, a social impact initiative and have other qualities that are required for Miss America.

After the Lady of the Bracelet is crowned, she moves on to compete at Miss Louisiana. If she is crowned Miss Louisiana, she will move on to Miss America. Miss America is an organization that prides itself on women empowerment and scholarship money for school.

Jourdan Waddell, current Miss Lady of the Bracelet, said she is ecstatic about passing on her crown to the next queen in line.

"I love being Miss LOB," Waddell said. "I'm not sure how it became a persona, but when people see me it's Miss LOB, not Jourdan. But I think that's cool!"

Waddell said her friends made her feel special by the way they respected the competition and what it stood for. She also said it helped her realize that this is one of the highest honors and a privilege to receive the crown.

Waddell is grateful to NSU for all the support.

"They pushed me so much to do my absolute best this year," Waddell said.

Waddell's social impact initiative was the Mental Health Stigma.

"I did notice a change in conversation about mental health. It impacted me, and I realized that whoever is Miss LOB has such a voice," Waddell said.

Waddell said her advice to the candidates of Lady of the Bracelet is to be yourself.

"Be genuine," Waddell said. "It's going to get you far. The judges want to see you for who you are because you're still that person at the end of the day."

Avery Debelak, freshman competitor, said she wants students to know that all the contestants are supportive of one another and that they all have each other's back.

"We're working as a team," Debelak said. "Even though it's a single title, I feel like at the end of the day we all win that title."

Admission is free, but donations for the Children's Miracle Network will be accepted.



# NSU's 2019 Christmas Gala moves to new venue

**Kathleen Hilliard**  
Reporter

The 2019 Christmas Gala will be performed at the Natchitoches Event Center this December due to reconstruction in A.A. Fredericks.

"Hosting the NSU Gala at the Natchitoches Events Center certainly offers a change in venue, but it also brings folks to the heart of the Historic Landmark District where most of the Christmas Festival activities take place," Meghan Richard, the Natchitoches Event Center Event Coordinator, said.

Richard believes the new location will add to the excitement and electricity of the Christmas festivities. She thinks it is a great opportunity for people to see what the Natchitoches Event Center has to offer while people enjoy the traditional NSU Christmas Gala.

Since the production is in an open, large exhibit hall, the cast and crew will utilize the space.

There is no pit for the orchestra, so they will remain at ground level with the audience. There are no curtains, so the behind the scenes will be onstage during transitions.

The technical staff are the most challenged because they are not accustomed to the event center's sound equipment, lights, backdrops and screens. Technical rehearsal may be longer in preparation.

The venue change also affects casting, arrangements, transportation and seating. The production has a smaller cast to accommodate the limited stage space and weight limit.

There are about 1000 ground level seats in the Natchitoches Event Center rather than the 1400 seats in A.A. Fredericks. Because of this, all attendees will have to purchase and print their tickets or have them available on mobile devices before the show.

Busses will transport audience members from Prather Coliseum to the Natchitoches Event Center and back before and after productions as a solution to the limited parking.

"I think changing it up and being in a different venue is a great

way for us to challenge ourselves and our students to learn how to improvise, how to work on the spot and how to manage some of their own challenges throughout the performance," Department Head of Theatre and Dance Brett Garfinkel said.

Although there will be changes, the attendance and visual impact of the performance is expected to remain the same. Director Michael Rorex explained that the Creative and Performing Arts Department began planning in August, and auditions were this month.

They will practice in NSU's theater, and then they will practice at the Natchitoches Event Center three days before the premiere on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

"We already have the show mapped out, and music has been ordered to begin rehearsals for singers, dancers, orchestra and jazz orchestra," Rorex said. "It will be an exciting and beautiful GALA, and I promise it will not disappoint."

The NSU Christmas Gala will be Dec. 4, Dec. 5, and Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. with an additional 9 p.m. performance on Dec. 6.

## NSU bookstore gets new textbook layout

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

This semester, the Northwestern State Marketplace changed its layout to organize books in alphabetical order by author rather than by subject. The changes caused some confusion for students.

Brandy Perot, manager at the bookstore, said it was Follett's main office that decided to change the layout. The changes were companywide, not just at NSU.

Perot said she thinks the new layout had a big impact on students this semester because it used to be easier to find the books by course. However, for some courses, Perot said the new layout helped students make sure the book they had was the right one.

Madison Szekely, sophomore, said she went to the bookstore this semester and noticed that the books had been rearranged.

"It was just more difficult all together getting books this semester," Szekely said. "Nothing seemed organized, and some of the workers seemed irritated when you asked them questions or for help."

In contrast, sophomore Samantha Vernor said she thought getting books for her classes this year was about the same as last year.

# Argus release party set for Thursday

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

After two years of working as Argus' editor in chief, Katie Rayburn passed the torch to Allie Atkinson. Rayburn and her staff's work with Argus will be showcased in its newest edition, Madrugada. The issue will be unveiled to the public for the first time this Thursday.

Argus has been NSU's literary magazine for over 40 years. The magazine provides a place for students to express themselves through submitted work such as poetry, prose, photography and art. Once a year, Argus publishes a new edition with a unique theme.

"Every edition we want to do something a little different," Rayburn said about her goal with

the Madrugada issue. Rayburn said the title represents the word Madrugada, the Spanish word for "before dawn."

"It's those early morning hours where you're kind of awake but nothing's really happening yet," Rayburn said.

Rayburn said some of the pieces in this issue have a surreal quality to them that help tie into the theme.

"They're not easily grasped," she said. "It takes a second to really understand what's happening in the stories."

Rebecca Macijeski, Argus' faculty advisor, said the Argus staff is excited for this issue. With the Madrugada theme, Macijeski said many of the pieces focus on transitions and spaces that are in-between.

"I'm hoping that the literary magazine is an invitation to

remember that we're all creative and have interesting, dynamic thoughts," Macijeski said. "It's really great to share that."

Aside from preparing for the upcoming release party, the Argus staff is already working on next year's issue.

Allie Atkinson, current editor in chief, said it's ultimately up to students to decide what each issue looks like. The theme serves as inspiration, but students can submit any kind of art for consideration.

"We're an outlet that allows students to express themselves in many ways," Atkinson said.

Argus' release party will be held at 7 p.m. in the Natchitoches room of Russell Hall. There will be refreshments, t-shirts and copies of Madrugada. Students will also be able to pick up free copies on campus throughout the semester.

**4 Arts and Living:**  
'Our Country's Good' preview

**5 Viewpoints:** Who won the JUUL© debate?

**7 Sports:**  
Athlete of the Week: Chris Zirkle



# Waitr comes to Natchitoches

**Kathleen Hilliard**  
Reporter

Waitr is here. Emma Acevedo is interested.

"I think it'll help me out on those nights that I just don't have time to go get food or I'm just being lazy and don't want to go out and get some," the NSU freshman said.

Waitr is a company that delivers food from local restaurants and food establishments right to one's front door. Waitr started in Lake Charles and has recently found a new home in Natchitoches.

Waitr is available for several restaurants and food establishments around Natchitoches already, such as The Landing Restaurant, Morning Star Donuts & Café and Front Street Marketplace.

Other locations that are coming soon are Hana's Steakhouse Seafood & Sushi, Pioneer Pub and French Market Express. All of the delivery options for Waitr can be found on their app or at their website.

"It's a good idea, especially for those students that just don't have the time to go pick up food because of homework or other reasons," Acevedo said. "It's a nice tool to have."

"I think in today's society everyone desires convenience in just about every avenue of their lives," Bryan Horton, market manager in Alexandria and Natchitoches, said. "Waitr excels in that area. We deliver convenience and great food which is a perfect pairing."

The delivery service promotes their care for their customers.

"I have been in Natchitoches every day for the last two weeks," Horton said. "I have met countless local residents, business owners, students, professors, directors and even the NSU President Dr. Maggio. Everyone has been so kind and receptive."

Waitr has announced a new

promo code for Natchitoches. People will have their delivery fee waived through the next week if they use the promo code 'forkem.'

"I think this will help NSU students in several ways," University President Dr. Chris Maggio said. "What I am very excited about is that it is an employment opportunity for a number of our students. Several students are drivers for the company."

According to Horton, the delivery job provides freedom. Employees have the ability to make their own schedule, be in their own vehicle, listen to their own music and not have someone breathing down their necks.

"Most jobs you have to schedule your life around work," Horton said. "We allow you to schedule work around your life. Most shifts are between three to five hours on average. At this time, drivers are responsible for their own gas, but we provide different incentives they can earn which can assist in that area," Horton said.

Waitr delivery hours are from 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Sunday and 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. President Maggio mentioned the great service of those already employed by Waitr.

"Everything was perfect," Maggio said. "Service was great, employees were so nice and the order was correct. The First Lady and I really enjoyed the Natchitoches Meat Pies from Lasyone's."

Maggio was the first university president to be "Customer 0" for the initial delivery in a town.

"Josh McDaniel in our marketing office had the great idea for the first order to be at NSU," Maggio said. "So, kudos to Josh and our marketing team for coming up with that great idea."

Horton wants Waitr to become integrated into the Natchitoches community.

"Natchitoches is known for their meat pies, Steel Magnolia home, Christmas lights and of course those fighting Demons," Horton said. "Our goal is that Waitr can become a staple in this community along with all those other wonderful things. So give us a chance. I promise we will deliver!"

# Gov. Edwards, Department of Health Release Louisiana's Opioid Response Plan

## Press Release

*From the Office of the Governor*



Baton Rouge — Yesterday, the Louisiana Department of Health released Louisiana's Opioid Response Plan, the first of its kind for the state. The plan aims to successfully reduce Louisiana's opioid epidemic by implementing strategies to address the under-reporting of opioid deaths, enhance monitoring of opioid prescriptions and increase access to treatment services.

Louisiana saw more than 450 opioid-related deaths in 2018, which points to the need for coordinated and comprehensive action.

"While we continue taking a number of positive steps forward in the battle against opioid addiction in Louisiana, we still have much work to do," said Gov. Edwards. "As a result of more comprehensive data collection, we are better able to understand the challenges of those suffering from this addiction and develop a new, innovative and coordinated state response efforts. Our people are Louisiana's most valuable resource and the opioid response plan outlines the steps we will take to ensure that we increase access to the best standards of care and treatment."

Louisiana has seen a rapid escalation in the opioid prescription rate and the drug overdose rate, prompting the Department to collaborate with partners on the Opioid Response Plan. The

Department of Health, through its organizational makeup, is in a unique position to address the opioid epidemic from multiple angles, all under the purview of a single state agency, but with acute awareness of the need to collaborate across agency lines and systems and branches of government.

Louisiana's Opioid Response Plan describes in detail the initiatives, campaigns and strategic activities currently underway to reduce opioid abuse in Louisiana, as well as those planned, along with the laws, regulations, policies and guidelines that support and define this mission. The plan also incorporates feedback from expert recommendations and public comments.

"This ambitious plan takes aim at a devastating public health epidemic that touches every corner of our communities, destroys lives and tears families apart," said Dr. Rebekah Gee, secretary of the Department of Health. "Through this plan, the Department of Health is committing anew its resources, data, wisdom and partnerships toward reducing the burgeoning opioid crisis in Louisiana."

The plan's response is built upon five pillars — surveillance, prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery — allowing the Department to address not only health, but also the social and economic consequences associated with opioid misuse and addiction.

"By approaching the opioid crisis with the five pillars, we can address this epidemic at all levels: socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. We're also setting people up with a continuum of care that supports a lifetime of recovery," Gee said. "With widespread public education, aggressive prevention campaigns, recovery support services, quality treatment services and a robust network of partnerships working together, we have the tools to eradicate opioid misuse in Louisiana."



## Hey Macklemore, can we go thrift shopping?

How to upgrade your Goodwill haul

Mary Gaffney

Contributing Writer

Remember when you imagined what college would be like? Did you imagine it would be full of friends that shared the same passion, good food, long nights and amazing stores?

Well, I have found everything but the last one, so revamping my closet can be a hassle, even with Amazon's two-day shipping.

Finding something to wear that is sustainable and good for the environment can be hard and, not to mention, expensive.

So, on a college budget and in a tiny town, I decided to do the very trendy thing known as thrifting.

You can find some very interesting and unique pieces in this town as well as in thrift stores in Shreveport.

But how do you go to Goodwill and find the best additions to your closet?

Finding a new wardrobe can be difficult, but finding those fun pieces can spice up any outfit. With these tips, your next Goodwill haul might be a good one!

Look for mom or boyfriend jeans that fit high on your waist. Then get out those scissors and make yourself your new favorite pairs of shorts.

Vintage jean shorts are super cute and can be used for any season, especially in Louisiana. These shorts will be completely unique to you and one of a kind!

Now let's talk about the holy grail of Goodwill: weird, big t-shirts.

No matter how many times I go to Goodwill, I always leave with either a big shirt or sweater. Those pieces are my favorite to either tuck into my bottoms or tie at the front for a nice, middle school throw-back that doesn't bring me trauma.

Silk long-sleeved shirts are also a special find and can be tied to give off a "...Baby One More Time" kind of vibe.

No matter what, look for pieces of clothing that call to you, and alter it to either fit you better or make it more modern.

Good luck with your Goodwill finds!

## Redemption through art

Production of 'Our Country's Good' debuts tonight



Photo by Brianna Corley.

Brianna Corley

Arts and Living Editor

Tonight, inside the confines of Theater West, a story credited for providing the basis for theater will make its debut.

Based on a true story, "Our Country's Good" follows the tale of the first English colony in Australia.

A colony of thieves comprised of convicts is no longer wanted by England, so the governor decides that the criminals should put on a play in order to rehabilitate the convicts for when they inevitably return as members of society.

"The original director of the production said for the play to succeed, you have to live the history," Dr. Rick St. Peter, the director of "Our Country's Good," said.

St. Peter thinks this play is one of many detail-oriented productions that students have proven more than capable of tackling. He attests this to the theater department's incredible talent.

This play acts not only as living history but as a love letter to theater.

Due to its historical nature, "Our Country's Good" presents difficulties for student actors in a unique way that productions in the past have not. Technicalities such as dialect and movement act as a way to provide authenticity to their characters and emphasize that they were real people.

Shari Wilson, junior who will be portraying the roles of Black Cesar, The Aborigine and Captain Tench, notes the differences of playing a character who existed in real life.

"You read about them and you know about them," Wilson said. "These people are so amazing,

and you want to do justice to every single part of them."

"Our Country's Good" aims to provoke discomfort and thought, taking all the bad with the good in its portrayal of its real-life events. Through taking place in Theater West, Wilson hopes it will provide an intimate experience for its audience.

"It's a daring and bold play, and I feel bold and daring after it," Wilson said.

Kyle Munson, a junior playing both Governor Arthur and Philip John Wisehammer, is also excited for the unique opportunity that "Our Country's Good" provides.

The small cast with all but one playing two characters each demands attention and quick changes.

Munson particularly notes how most characters being dually played are from opposite sides of the spectrum. This is evident in his own roles, one being the first governor Australia who has many recorded documents around his history and the other a convict with little information concerning his background.

Playing out the memory of those stories that aren't told is something that Munson finds to be a rewarding aspect of the production.

"There are so many interesting people and interesting stories that we never get to hear," Munson said. "I think any time we are able to find something and shine a light on people we've never gotten to know before is very important."

Nightly performances will take place tonight through Saturday and Oct. 2 through 5 at 7:30 p.m. There will also be a matinee this Sunday at 2 p.m.

Adult tickets cost \$15, children and seniors \$12 and all student tickets are free with a valid student ID and current sticker.



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic! How do I push through whenever I'm burnt out from school work already? I know it's still pretty early on, but I need to take care of this problem before it gets out of hand.

**A** Feeling this way is completely normal.

Here are a few tips that should help you along the way!

- **Make sure you're giving yourself time to rest.** Taking care of your body is vital to your success.

- **When your body gives you signs, don't ignore them.** Feed yourself, and stay hydrated.

- **Make a schedule** for completing work and stick to it.

- **Don't procrastinate.** We overwork our bodies when we try to do several assignments at once. Do assignments ahead of time so you won't have to stay up all night before the assignment is actually due.

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# NSYou

## If you were a faculty member for a day, who would you be?



“Dr. Rasmussen because we’re already very similar.”  
**Christian Boudreaux**  
Senior  
Broadcasting and Digital Media



“I would want to be Van Erikson because I love the FYE office and I think it would be a lot of fun to work there.”  
**Sheridan Duet**  
Sophomore  
Hospitality Management and Tourism



“I would be Corbin Cover because we have the same sense of humor.”  
**Makaila Rideaux**  
Freshman  
Graphic Design



“Reatha Cox. She’s making moves.”  
**Hannah Durgin**  
Sophomore  
Biology

# Unsigned Editorial: Parking on Campus

**Editorial Board**  
*The Current Sauce*

Parking on this campus is nothing short of stressful. If there is anything NSU should do to enhance the student experience, it should create more parking lots. The initial problem is not that there is not enough parking. The problem is that there are students who live on campus that drive to class. On-campus residents should walk to class. Their living areas are not impossibly far from classroom

buildings. Students that live off campus are struggling to get to class on time because they can never find a parking spot. It is super aggravating seeing someone parked in the Kyser parking lot and noticing that they live in UP2 when that dorm is not even five minutes away. One of our editors has had to park in the Health and Human Performance parking lot for the past week because Kyser is full of on-campus residents’ cars. Walking to class is not hard. There are a lot of things to do while

walking to class to make the walk go by faster, like calling your parents. They probably want to hear from you, and you can complain to them that NSU should make more parking spots. Is Pokémon Go still a thing? Can we still catch a Pikachu while walking to Theater West? Somewhere, there is enough money from all that tuition to tear down the Natatorium and build a parking lot or a parking garage. Or maybe NSU should make the Kyser parking lot commuter-only parking. That would be something.

## RSO WORD UNSCRAMBLE

- 1) DKWN \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) FSIRT EARY IEXEENRPEC \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) FNAAIC ERCANMIA SCCUUA \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) PAAHL ALDAMB TADEL \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ODSEMN OPUTSRP DEMNOS \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) GPINEHL SDNAH \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) HOALCTIC TNEDSUT AIOOZITAGNRN \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) NSU’s student run radio station
- 2) This is a program tailored specifically for first-year students
- 3) The general purpose of this organization is to promote awareness of African American concerns
- 4) An honor society for first year students
- 5) This RSO goal is to raise awareness about sexual assault and harassment and mentor victims to help empower them so they can become survivors
- 6) This RSO is through Student Support Services. “You have one hand to help your self, and another to help others.”
- 7) This RSO is a faith-based student organization based around the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church



# Who won the JUUL © debate?



## Letter to the Editor

### Trump drops out

It is my expectation that President Trump is going to do all of us a big favor and decide sometime in early-to-mid 2020 not to run for re-election largely because of a slow-down in our economy. When that happens, I hope that the Republicans will nominate someone of good character such as Nikki Haley or Carly Fiorina. Personally, I don't know what I find to be more despicable about the guy -- the way that he makes fun of and insults people's physical appearance or the way that he views women as sex-objects.

Sincerely,  
Stewart B. Epstein  
Rochester, New York

P.S. By way of background, I am a retired college professor of Sociology, Social Work and Psychology who still very much enjoys helping people as well as informing, teaching and educating others when I believe that I have something to offer to them. That's why I write these letters. I taught at West Virginia University and Slippery Rock University.



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

R. F. 2019-02

*to encourage student groups against the use of hazing in membership processes*

September 16, 2019

*Sponsored by Senators L. BRISCOE & S. DOUGLAS*

**WHEREAS**, September 23, 2019 marks the first day of National Hazing Prevention Week; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1838 there have been over 200 student deaths associated with hazing; and

**WHEREAS**, the health and safety of the Student Body is of the utmost importance to the Student Government Association; and

**WHEREAS**, the practice of hazing, where physical or psychological harm is inflicted on students as part of membership in any group, has absolutely no place at Northwestern State University or at American colleges and universities;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the Student Government Association reaffirms our commitment to ensuring that no organization at Northwestern State University shall permit the practice of hazing, and that we condemn the use of hazing in any stage of membership in any organization or group not only at this university, but at all colleges and universities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacob A. Ellis'.

JACOB A. ELLIS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

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# Three Lady Demons win draws in final day of UCA Invitational



**Ela Iwaniuk has continued a strong 2019 season into the fall, as she won the No. 2 draw in a pro set.** Photo by Chris Reich.

## Jonathon Zenk

*NSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant*

CONWAY, Ark.—The impressive fall season continued for Northwestern State in the UCA Invitational as Judit Castillo Gargallo, Ela Iwaniuk and Olivia Alfredsson all won their singles draws Saturday.

“I felt we had a solid tournament from all of our players,” head coach Patric DuBois said. “It was nice to have three singles and doubles championship in the end, but I’m most happy now everyone is committed to being better than they were the day before.”

Alfredsson remained perfect in fall play, as she won her draws in both singles and doubles. She was in flight No. 4 and cruised in the first round that was rained out Friday, winning in straight sets 6-3, 6-3 over Harding’s Lindy Carpenter.

She had to go into the pro set to win in the semifinals and finals, coming from behind to defeat Jill Morse of Arkansas State after losing the first set 6-2. She won the last two 6-2 and 10-6 to move to the finals, where she once again won in a pro set. She came from behind to defeat Central Arkansas’ Mei Ishimura. After dropping the first set once

again, she won 6-3 and 10-5 to win her draw.

Castillo Gargallo also won her semifinals and finals in pro sets at No. 6. After coming from behind to defeat UCA’s Paulina Engback, she defeated Arkansas State’s Amelia Guevremont 6-4, 1-6, 10-6.

Iwaniuk has continued a strong 2019 season into the fall, as she won the No. 2 draw in a pro set. After winning in the first round Friday, she beat Murray State’s Sara Loncarevic after dropping the first set 6-2. She won the next set 6-3 and a thrilling pro set 11-9. She followed that up with another win with an exhilarating 11-9 pro set victory.

Alfredsson and partner Mariella Minetti did work in doubles as well. The pair were perfect in the Natchitoches Women’s Care Lady Demon Invitational, and were again in Conway, winning in the semifinals and finals by identical 6-3 scores.

First, it was Murray State’s Samantha Muller and Marit Kreugel and then beating Arkansas State’s Amelia Guevremont and Jill Morse in the final in No. 3 doubles.

“We are all committed to doing things the right way all the time and improve so we are where we want to be in the end.”

After a week off next week, they pick up fall action Oct. 4 in Lafayette at the Ragin’ Cajun Invitational.

# Partnership with CLC leads to record revenues for NSU Athletics



**“We are grateful for the vendors who are official licensees of Demon athletics and do such a wonderful job of promoting the NSU brand on many levels...”**

## Jason Pugh

*Assistant AD for Media Relations*

NATCHITOCHES – Northwestern State’s licensing agreement with CLC has delivered record-breaking revenues to the athletic department in each of the first two quarters of 2019.

Official Northwestern State logos are trademarked, and as such, persons/vendors wishing to sell branded NSU items must be licensed through licensing and brand management partner CLC (formerly Learfield). Licenses start at \$250, and a percentage of every NSU item sold is returned to the university. The partnership also allows NSU representatives to review and approve all designs that bear its name and/or likeness.

“A business associate from a large corporation recently referenced the value of ‘riding your brand’ and the ever-growing licensing program for NSU Athletics does just that on a daily basis,” said Northwestern State Director of Athletics Greg Burke.

“We are grateful for the vendors who are official licensees of Demon athletics and do such a wonderful job of promoting the NSU brand on many levels. With that said, we are just touching the tip of the iceberg as it relates to the potential for expanding NSU’s licensing platform and, in turn, generating additional revenue that will better position our athletic program for success.”

The Northwestern State Athletic Department constantly is looking for new vendors willing

to invest in its brand, as well as working with current vendors to offer a wider variety of NSU branded items to consumers.

“It’s important for friends and fans of Northwestern State to know and understand how NSU manages its brand and how vital licensing revenues are to the athletic program’s operation,” said Associate Athletic Director for External Relations Dr. Haley Taitano. “It’s encouraging to see licensing revenues higher than ever before thanks to NSU’s amazing fans and licensing partners! The potential for growth, both by way of expanding the NSU brand and reach, and enhancing revenue streams, is exponential.”

After forging new partnerships with alumni-owned businesses Cane River Brewing Company of Natchitoches and Cayenne Marketing of Shreveport (a vendor for the NSU alumni-owned business Simply Chic Boutique), the athletic department expects revenues to continue to rise.

“Every time NSU fans purchase NSU branded items from a licensed vendor, it benefits the university,” said Taitano, who oversees NSU’s athletic branding efforts. “Fans who have concerns regarding the availability or selection of items in their areas, particularly in the Northwest Louisiana region, are encouraged to ask store managers/owners why they don’t carry NSU items. It’s simply the supply and demand rule. Our fans can help by continuing to ask for more NSU items in neighboring stores.”



# Athlete of the Week: Chris Zirkle

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

Finishing two degrees, earning All-Southland honors and being a Student Athlete Advisory Committee community service director on top of leading the Demons offensive line is no easy feat, but it's what senior offensive lineman Chris Zirkle has been working towards during his whole career.

Hailing from League City, Texas, Zirkle competed at Clear Springs High School, proving himself as a two-time all-district and three-time all-county lineman before graduating and committing to playing football at Northwestern State.



**Hailing from League City, Texas, Zirkle competed at Clear Springs High School, proving himself as a two-time all-district and three-time all-county lineman** Photo by Gary Hardamon.

As a Demon, he has gone above and beyond to show that he wishes to make an impact not only on the field but also in the community.

Earning membership into the Alpha Lamda Delta honor society as a freshman, he went on to garner

multiple Southland Conference All-Academic team listings.

In 2017, he made the All-Louisiana First Team and represented the Southland Conference as the male representative at the 2018 NCAA Student-Athlete Leadership Forum.

Graduating first with a bachelor's degree in business, he has almost completed a second bachelor's degree in homeland security.

While doing so, he has served on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee executive board and has led efforts in the community as a community service director.

"Giving back is a big deal, especially at the college level," said Zirkle. "I have been blessed to not have to make my parents pay for college. It's something I've worked really hard for and am proud of. The balance is hard sometimes, but if it really matters, you'll make time for it."

Upon graduating, he aims to try and pursue a professional football career. He's developed an impressive academic and athletic résumé that will help him fulfill his dreams of making a lasting impact on the world and reaching his full potential.

## NSU cross-country teams settle into this season under new coach

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

Two races into the season, the Demon and Lady Demon cross-country teams are beginning to hit their stride after a strong showing at the LA Tech Mook Triple-Duals on Sept. 14.

Under the guidance of new head coach De'Shalyn Jones, who holds nine Southland Conference individual titles and was a multiple time NCAA All-American sprinter, the relatively young and inexperienced cross-country teams are relying on their few veteran runners to set the pace for the

season.

"Right now, we only have one senior on the team, and the rest are mostly juniors and freshman," Jones said. "We have a lot of really good freshmen coming in, and they get a chance to learn from experienced runners like Izzy (Hudson)."

Jones expects returning team members to either start off at the same spot as last year or close to it.

"If we have some people set (personal records), that would be lovely, but I really just want to use these first couple meets as a basis and a good standard for the rest of the season," Jones said.

Dealing with health issues and battling minor injuries, the Northwestern State cross-country teams had a tough season opener against one of the strongest programs

in the Southland Conference at the Stephen F. Austin Lumberjack Opener on Aug. 30.

Entering the LA Tech Mook Triple-Duals two weeks later, the cross-country teams toed the line with more confidence and experience than they had displayed during the season opener. With a better understanding of race pace and healthier teams, the Lady Demons placed second while the Demons placed fifth.

"In the weeks leading up to LA Tech, we did a lot of race tempo modeling in training," Jones said. "I just think if we stay focused and believe in ourselves a little bit more then we should be fine."

The Demons and Lady Demons compete again in Lake Charles on Saturday, Sept. 28 at the Lake Charles Toyota Cowboy Stampede.

### GAME SCHEDULE

#### Football

9/28/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs. Southeastern Louisiana

#### Volleyball

9/26/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Sam Houston State

9/28/19 11:00 a.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Houston Baptist

#### Soccer

9/27/19 7:00 p.m.  
@Natchitoches, LA  
vs. Lamar

9/29/19 1:00 p.m.  
@Natchitoches, LA  
vs. McNeese

### Results of last week's schedule

#### Football

9/21/19 6:00 p.m.  
at Houston Baptist  
L 21-48

#### Volleyball

9/20/19 5:30 p.m.  
@Georgia State  
L 1-3  
9/21/19 1:00 p.m.  
@Atlanta, GA  
vs. Brown University  
W 3-0

#### Soccer

9/20/19 7:00 p.m.  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
W 1-0





## Louisiana elections are October 12

Learn more about the leading candidates for the gubernatorial race.



US Representative Dr. John Abraham, Gov. John Bel Edwards, and businessman Eddie Rispone. Photo courtesy of WAFB TV.

### Thomas Celles

Reporter

Going into the 2015 Louisiana gubernatorial election, no one expected the Democrat to win. Yet, after a longshot campaign that led to a runoff between him and former U.S. Senator David Vitter (R-LA), John Bel Edwards emerged as the 56th governor of Louisiana.

Since then, Gov. Edwards has bucked the party line and worked towards several bipartisan initiatives focused on reducing crime and uninsurance.

### Candidate: John Bel Edwards

#### Background

Edwards comes from a small town on the outskirts of New Orleans called Amite. The son of a sheriff, he was set on a life of public service from a young age.

Edwards graduated from high school as the valedictorian in 1984 and immediately set off for the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating with a bachelor's degree in engineering in

1988.

After eight years of military service, most notably commanding the 3rd brigade of the 82nd Airborne Division, Captain Edwards left the armed forces to attend law school at Louisiana State University. Earning his juris doctor degree, the highest law degree in the U.S., in 1999, Edwards then started his own firm called Edwards and Associates.

Edwards practiced law until 2007, when he was once more drawn into the public sphere by running for a seat to represent the 72nd district in the Louisiana House of Representatives. This district encompasses a large part of Tangipahoa Parish, including the towns of Amite, Kentwood, Greensburg and a section of Hammond.

Edwards was considered a rising star in the House as he was the only freshman representative to chair a committee at that time. Further, he was later chosen to chair the Democratic caucus for the House.

He was re-elected in 2011 by

a landslide, beating out Johnny Duncan 83 percent to 17 percent.

In 2013, Edwards officially kickstarted his gubernatorial campaign. His major opponents were U.S. Senator David Vitter, Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne and Public Service Commissioner Scott Angelle.

Despite firm opposition from Republicans, starting off, Edwards led by a significant margin.

The 2015 gubernatorial race was the most expensive in state history, with candidates and political action committees spending a combined \$50 million. Scandals rocked the race, with Vitter being heavily hit by both Edwards and his Republican rivals over his early-2000s involvement with a Washington, D.C. prostitution ring.

After being eliminated from the primary on Oct. 24, Republican Dardenne evoked anger from his party when he endorsed Edwards instead of Vitter. Reince Priebus, Republican National Committee chairman, wrote Dardenne a letter and called the endorsement a

betrayal.

On Nov. 21, Edwards bested Vitter 56 percent to 44 percent to claim the gubernatorial race. Edwards was sworn in on Jan. 11, 2016

#### Policies

Edwards has focused on fiscal responsibility, higher education, reducing uninsurance and criminal justice reform. His first major issue to tackle was a \$2 billion budget deficit left to him by the previous governor, Bobby Jindal.

He also expanded protections for LGBT people, including prohibiting state agencies from discriminating and rescinding previous protections for discrimination based on religious views.

Later in 2016, Edwards expanded Medicaid to cover thousands of

**Continued on  
page 2.**



individuals with no insurance. As a direct result, the uninsured rate in the state dropped from 22.7 percent to 11.4 percent in a year.

Gov. Edwards' major criminal justice reform legislation was passed in 2018. These new policies made sentences lighter for nonviolent offenders in the state. That year, Louisiana lost its top spot as the state with the most incarcerations per capita.

The governor has also thrown his support behind teachers. In 2018, Gov. Edwards secured the first pay raise for teachers in the

state in almost 10 years.

One of the most controversial policies that Gov. Edwards has supported in his tenure has been the "fetal heartbeat" abortion ban signed in May 2019.

Despite receiving a lot of criticism from Democrats, Gov. Edwards stands firmly behind his decision. Lawsuits regarding similar versions of this bill are pending in several judicial districts across the U.S.

#### Current Campaign

Going into the gubernatorial election on Oct. 12, where he is

### Candidate: Ralph Abraham

#### Background

Dr. Ralph Abraham Jr. has held more titles than most in his life.

"Doc," as he likes to go by, has held positions as a veterinarian, a medical doctor, a first lieutenant in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Mississippi National Guard and currently serves as the U.S. Representative for Louisiana's 5th district.

On top of that, Abraham is also a farmer, a pilot and owns his own business.

Abraham graduated from Louisiana State University School

of Veterinary Medicine in 1980 began to practice in Richland Parish, Louisiana.

That same year, he received his pilot's license and became a flight instructor. Six years later he commissioned in the National Guard.

In a sudden career change, he returned to LSU to attend medical school and thereafter began practicing medicine in 1995.

In 2014, he was elected to the Congress as the Representative of Louisiana's 5th District.

#### Political history

Politically, Abraham is a conservative Republican who falls in line with the party.

### Candidate: Eddie Rispone

Eddie Rispone considers himself the "conservative outsider" in the 2019 Louisiana gubernatorial race.

A businessman and a construction worker for his entire life, it's only recently that he's gotten into politics. From his humble beginnings, he has risen to become one of the wealthiest residents in the state.

He donates his earnings to various programs, including over \$1 million to political campaigns and \$8 million to charitable and religious organizations. Now, he's putting a portion of his cash, \$10 million, into his campaign for the highest office in the state.

#### Background

Rispone grew up in a small

house in Baton Rouge with his parents and six siblings. He started working in construction at 15 years old with his older brother Sammy.

He was an all-state football player in high school. Rispone attended LSU and graduated with a bachelor's degree in construction technology, the first of his family to do so.

He went on to found ISC Constructors with his brother Jerry in 1989. Today, that company is one of the largest construction companies in the South with offices in Houston, Beaumont, Texas, and Lake Charles and headquarters in Baton Rouge.

Rispone's first foray into politics came in 2005 when he led the Louisiana Craft Workforce Development Board.

He was then appointed by former Gov. Bobby Jindal as chairman of the Workforce Investment Council, an advisory committee for the

contending for a second term, Gov. Edwards looks to be in a strong frontrunner position according to several polls.

In July 2019, the Gov. Edwards campaign reported \$9.62 million in the bank to the Louisiana Ethics Board, which they say is the strongest financial position a candidate for Louisiana governor has ever been in.

The Secretary of State reported on Sept. 29 that the first day of early voting this year saw the second highest number of votes cast in early voting history at 77,059 votes,

On most issues, he has supported the Trump administration policies, including the infamous travel ban on Muslim-majority countries and defunding "sanctuary cities."

He has served on several House committees, including Armed Forces, Agriculture, and Science, Space and Technology. He is a pro-life and pro-gun politician as well.

Abraham also has a history of being anti-LGBT. In 2015, he strongly opposed the Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage.

"I believe in the traditional definition of marriage — one man, one woman — and the Supreme Court should have respected states'

governor.

He has been a longtime donor to the Louisiana Republican Party, supporting several candidates and political action committees. These include state Rep. Steve Scalise and former Sen. David Vitter's run for governor. According to the New Orleans Times-Picayune, most of his donations have gone towards political action committees that fund candidates who support charter schools and state school vouchers.

Rispone is a pro-life, pro-family and pro-Second Amendment candidate. He is a strong supporter of President Trump, mentioning numerous times during the campaign that he will follow Trump's policies if he wins.

Rispone refers to his record as a businessman to showcase his experience in creating jobs, which he claims he will bring to the state level. Rispone also supports work

requirements for welfare recipients and claims that Gov. Edwards expansion of Medicaid was a disastrous mistake.

Early voting started on Sept. 28 and will continue until Saturday. The primary election will be on Oct. 12.

If no one wins a majority on Oct. 12, the top two candidates will face off in the general election on Nov. 16.

More information on Gov. Edwards can be found at [gov.louisiana.gov/page/meet-the-governor](http://gov.louisiana.gov/page/meet-the-governor) or [johnbelforlouisiana.com](http://johnbelforlouisiana.com)

rights to define that for themselves," Abraham said to USA Today in 2015.

On Aug. 22, 2019, Abraham released a campaign advertisement where he states, "as a doctor, I can assure you, there are only two genders."

Early voting started on Sept. 28 and continues until Saturday. The primary election will be on Oct. 12.

If no one wins a majority on Oct. 12, the top two candidates will face off in the general election on Nov. 16.

More information on Representative Abraham is available at [abraham.house.gov](http://abraham.house.gov) or [abrahamforgovernor.com](http://abrahamforgovernor.com)

requirements for welfare recipients and claims that Gov. Edwards expansion of Medicaid was a disastrous mistake.

Rispone has received a great deal of criticism from Republicans because of his ads and speeches targeting both Gov. Edwards and fellow Republican challenger Rep. Ralph Abraham. Numerous state Republican officials have fired back, telling Rispone that Republicans need to stick together and that attacking each other only helps Edwards.

Early voting started on Sept. 28 and will continue until Saturday. The primary election will be on Oct. 12.

If no one wins a majority on Oct. 12, the top two candidates will face off in the general election on Nov. 16.

More information on Eddie Rispone is available at [eddieforgovernor.com](http://eddieforgovernor.com)

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# Ransomware epidemic strikes Louisiana

**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter

The State of Louisiana is under a state of emergency after three public school districts were hit with ransomware attacks.

On July 24, Gov. John Bel Edwards issued a state of emergency after these attacks.

As recently as Aug. 20, dozens of towns in Texas were struck by coordinated ransomware attacks that completely locked down the local governments' computer servers.

Although ransomware is not a new concept, the recent attacks have brought it into a national spotlight as governments and experts struggle to find ways to combat it.

According to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, "Ransomware is a type of malicious software – or malware – that attempts to deny users access to computer systems or data until a ransom has been paid."

Resolution of a ransomware attack often requires the aid of specialists and some victims decide to pay the ransom instead, yet experts say paying up is no guarantee of regaining access.

Austin Warren, sophomore, said that he hopes NSU is prepared for any attacks on its servers.

"The idea that an attack like the ones in the news could be the fault of any unaware student is a bit nerve-racking because I don't want to be the reason the servers go down," Warren said.

Shawn Parr, senior systems

administrator for NSU said Information Technology Systems is aware of the issue and is confident in their ability to defend against any attacks.

"On our campus we have not seen any ransomware on specific machines or in any of our data center systems," Parr said. "We have seen, however, a huge uptick in the methods that are used to spread malware and ransomware."

Parr is confident in the ability of NSU's Information Technology Department to prevent such an infection, and if necessary, combat a breach in security.

"We were implementing new email filters even before the state of emergency occurred," Parr said. "[They] have been very effective in preventing these types of attacks that are used to spread [malware]."

Parr said that the school districts who were the victims of earlier attacks that led to the state of emergency did not have a security stance on par with NSU's.

Parr said the easiest way to protect yourself and NSU against malware attacks is just to be vigilant. He recommends never clicking on links or open attachments in suspicious emails and always follow safe practices when browsing the internet.

In Parr's experience, malware is typically delivered through email scams or phishing.

Students and faculty can obtain free antivirus software for their computers. Visit [www.nsula.edu/its/services/](http://www.nsula.edu/its/services/) for more details.

More information on ransomware is available at [www.us-cert.gov/Ransomware](http://www.us-cert.gov/Ransomware).

# Pi Kappa Phi will build new house on campus

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Thanks to their alumni chapter, Pi Kappa Phi fraternity is expected to break ground on a new house on campus within the next month.

Wes Breeden, alumni chapter president, said the house will start being built around homecoming this year, and active brothers should be able to begin moving into the house in the fall 2020 semester. The house will be located between the Phi Mu and Tri Sigma houses on Org Row.

Pi Kappa Phi is the oldest fraternity at NSU. Wes Breeden, alumni chapter president, said that ever since the chapter's re-founding in the spring of 2000, Pi Kappa Phi has had one of the strongest and most active alumni chapters in the country.

"One of the blessings that comes from our history is having many of the greatest alumni of NSU initiate into our chapter," Breeden said.

Breeden said because of the great experience the alumni brothers had at both NSU and Pi Kappa Phi, the alumni association works diligently to give back to the active brothers.

"The new house is being funded by generous donations from our alumni chapter as well as an on-going capital campaign," Breeden said.

Paul Bryant, member of Pi Kappa Phi, said he thinks the new



**Thanks to their alumni chapter, Pi Kappa Phi fraternity is expected to break ground on a new house on campus within the next month.** Photo submitted by Char'Tarian Wilson.

house will help future members because they will no longer have to go off campus to get to the house.

Nicholas Olivares, president of Pi Kappa Phi, said the opening of the new house marks a new chapter in which many more opportunities, experiences and memories will be made for generations of Pi Kappa Phis to come.

"Our alumni have worked very hard in order to make this dream a reality for us, and on the behalf of the Beta Omicron chapter we can't thank them enough," Olivares said.

# On-campus fashion show will debut next semester

**Kathleen Hilliard**  
Reporter

Avery Tibbets thought about transferring schools to attend a university that had a student-run fashion show.

So why not start one at NSU?

Demon Designer, a new on-campus fashion show run by students, will debut in March 2020.

This new addition to events sponsored by the University Programming Council was started by Tibbets, sophomore hospitality management and tourism major and president of Demon Designer.

"My goal for Demon Designer

on campus is to get the community involved in fashion and raise people's awareness of how big and important fashion really is," Tibbets said.

There are currently 20 members on the Demon Designer committee. NSU students are invited to join the committee and participate, as the group is eagerly looking for more people to help.

Demon Designer subcommittees include graphic design, design, modeling, PR/marketing and event planning. Anybody interested is invited to e-mail Tibbets or come by the University Programming Council office in room 222 of the

student union to inquire.

Mya Melancon, junior, said she was interested at the idea of having a fashion group at NSU.

"It'll help to highlight a niche interest that is otherwise unrecognized, because fashion is generally perceived as 'feminine', and I think it'll give students who are very interested in fashion, either professionally or as a hobby, an outlet for their creativity," Melancon said.

Melancon said she thinks the fashion show will be a new outlet for students who might not have had a place for their art in the past.

"I think it'll be important and

possibly revolutionary to open that door for NSU," Melancon said.

Emily Benoit, senior and community outreach supervisor for the University Programming Council, encourages people to get involved in any of the University Programming Council committees to help plan events on campus.

"The University Programming Council is responsible for putting on a large portion of the fun events for students that take place on campus," Benoit said. "We are constantly brainstorming new and innovative ways to shape the student experience according to our students' wants and needs."



## How to incorporate patterns into fall fashion

**Mary Gaffney**  
Contributing Writer

For the past year, our world has been especially rocked by animal prints, 90s and 80s patterns. Let's keep that pattern trend going because fashion is all about experimentation.

There are the usual prints and patterns to play around with for every season. Plaids have been a staple for fall since the dawn of time, just like floral is for the spring.

What if we combined the two?

I think fashion can't be done wrong, and as long as you're comfortable in your new look, that's all that matters. Personally, I think trying new textures and patterns together can bring a new dimension to an outfit that would usually be boring.

Have your favorite floral heels? Try pairing one color in the pattern with another on a different piece. If your matching color is cream, pair it with a plaid sweater or jacket that also has a similar cream color so the outfit isn't an eyesore of patterns.

It can get tricky out there in the fashion wild but keep calm and remember to please clean up your room after you try every outfit on.

Personally, I love animal prints. I can't get enough of the snakeskin skirts and leopard shirts.

That's where the fall weather comes in. It's been pretty nice outside, so if you don't mind a little sweat or if you want to plan your new look ahead of time, try color-blocking!

Too much pattern in one outfit? Throw a black turtleneck underneath the patterned shirt to give it a clean-cut look, pair it with black bottoms and then wear a patterned shoe to keep it fresh. I love the look of an oversized button-up shirt over a tight black turtleneck.

Remember to keep your accessories minimum so it doesn't overcrowd your outfit.

No matter what patterns you love, they can be worn at any time of the year. Now go forth and wear those prints with pride!

## Get to know your new Miss LOB



**Madeline Hensley is crowned Miss Lady of the Bracelet.** Photo by Christian Boudreaux.

**Mekayla Jenkins**  
Photo Editor

On Sept. 27, eight women competed for the honorable title of Miss Northwestern Lady of the Bracelet.

As Jourdan Waddell took her final bow as Miss LOB, she crowned NSU's new Miss LOB, Madeline Grace Hensley.

Hensley is a sophomore health and exercise science major. She is a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority, the Student Government Association and Alpha Lambda Delta honor society.

She is also an NSU social media ambassador and was a freshman connection leader over the summer.

Hensley earned her crown by stunning the judges as well as the crowd. Hensley won the talent competition, the Liz Carroll People's Choice Award and Miss Congeniality.

Mary Scott Pourciau, event coordinator for the University Programming Council, expressed how excited she is about working with Hensley.

"She loves NSU more than anyone I know," Pourciau said. "She has already proven herself to be a wonderful servant leader on campus, and I am so excited to see what she will do next with this honorable position."

Yonna Pasch, director of

student activities, said she was proud of Hensley as well as the other contestants for being kind, hardworking and phenomenal women.

"Maddy is absolutely precious to work with," Pasch said. "She has such a great outlook on the entire experience."

Hensley loved working with the other young women and, they've helped her throughout the process.

"I worked hard," Hensley said. "All of us worked hard. I love each girl. We really were a team."

Hensley's social impact initiative is to shine a light on autism. She has been involved with the special needs community for six years now.

Hensley said she hopes to encourage NSU as well as the community to get involved and get to know the people around them. Hensley is passionate about her social impact initiative.

"Through inclusion, I feel like we can make an inclusive environment that's a fair and equal opportunity to all," Hensley said.

One of Hensley's ideas is to have a censor-free night open to the community and NSU students.

"I want to let people know there are other options, like you are not alone," Hensley said.

Hensley said she is excited to have the opportunity to represent NSU on a larger scale.

"It's surreal because I love this place," Hensley said. "This is the one place that I will forever be a part of."



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic, money is getting tight now that the semester is in full swing. Do you know how to get a job in Natchitoches?

**A** Here are some places you can reach out to if you need a job in Natchitoches.

**-Student Employment Office.** They're located on the second floor of the Student Services Building. They can give you more information on eligibility for on-campus employment and provide resources.

**-Apply at other departments on campus.** On campus departments that directly hire include Student Technology in Room 113 in Watson Library, Academic Service Tutors in the second floor of the Friedman Student Union and the Wellness Recreation Activity Center located on Sam Sibley Drive.

**-The Job Location & Development Office** is a free job service for students looking for off-campus student employment. Their office is located on the third floor of the Friedman Student Union.

**-Ask businesses in the area.** Calling local businesses in the area to ask if they're hiring is a direct way to find out if they need employees.

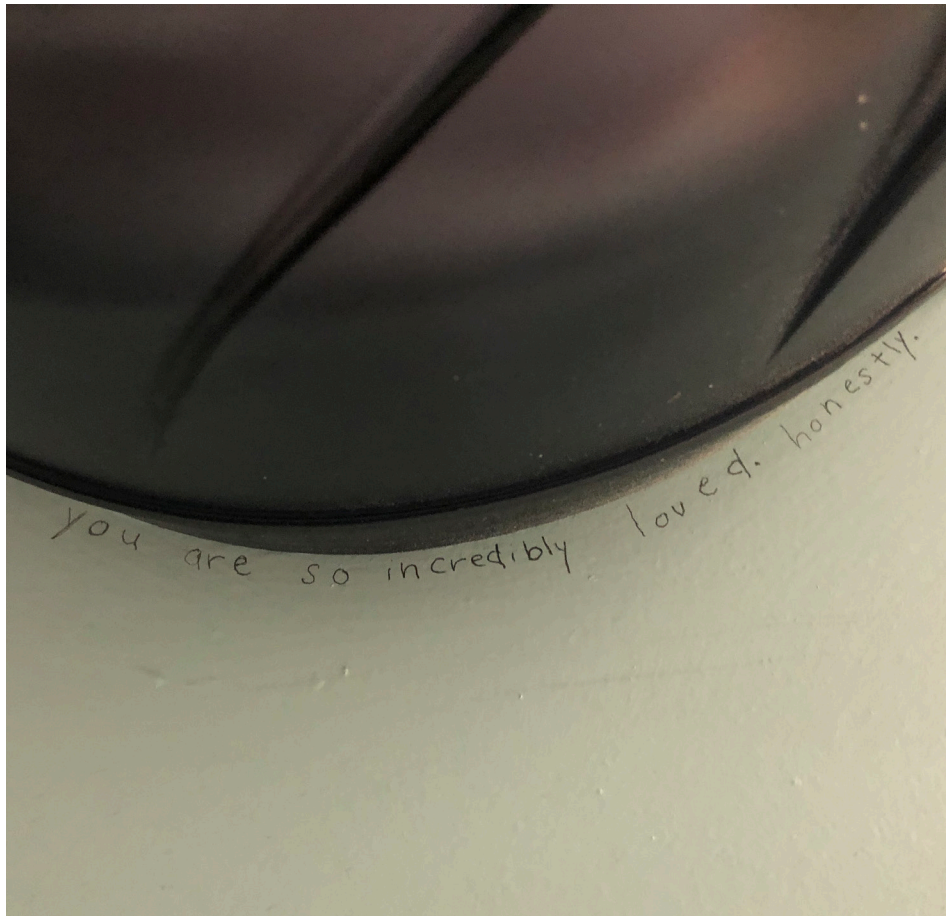
Just remember to be dressed professionally and bring a résumé when you go in to apply. A store could choose to interview you on the spot, and it's better to put your best foot forward.

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# Our reflections are in the bathroom stalls



Graffiti in the women's bathrooms on campus. Photos by Samantha Clark.

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

"I have been abandoned by God, stranded, toilet paperless," begins a poem of tragedy on the side of a Kyser second floor bathroom stall. This is only one example of the various scribbles from students across the walls of our campus bathrooms.

"I think in the bathroom it's private, and you have the idea that you're isolated," Phyllis Lear, art history professor, said. "Anybody can hear but they can't see you. I think there's a privacy there where you can speak without having to worry about what anybody thinks."

Graffiti is a place of self-expression which is anonymous in a public domain. It offers a unique way to represent the slice of society it has been placed in, on

the bathroom walls and beyond.

According to Lear, the practice of graffiti is arguably the first form of art and basis for expression. Happy messages bring light in bathroom stalls and streets alike, and the act of anonymous vandalism can provide an outlet for political protest in countries where graffiti exists as the only way to speak out.

Even still, the act is destruction of property, and rampant homophobic, racist and sexist imagery often appear through means of graffiti. This imagery also exists in NSU's bathrooms.

According to Dale Wohletz, physical plant director, while there is some maintenance to cover up all graffiti, as it is a constant problem that happens every day and is hard to maintain, their efforts are mostly put towards painting over the vulgar expressions in bathroom stalls as soon as they notice or are notified.

"We are not only what we eat physically, but we are also composed of what we eat and digest visually," Lear said. "It does matter."

Lear is aware of the harm graffiti can cause. She said that society must be aware that such angry and frightened people exist,

and society needs to be prepared to take responsibility on educating them,

One way she suggests teaching them is possible education in the bathroom as a direct counterpart.

"As long as there is frustration, I don't think it's going to stop," Lear said. "In every culture since the beginning of time people have wanted to express something."

While graffiti in bathroom stalls is a form of self-expression and reflection of those responsible for drawing it, the question of whether it can be defined as art is more heavily debated.

"It really goes along with art in general with how art can just have positive or negative effects," senior Rhiannon Venable said.

Venable said the bathroom walls' tendency to reflect society would be an argument that delves into the internet fads, reflection of pop culture and our current need for our humor to have instant gratification.

"It is school property, and it's technically against the rules," Venable said.

Venable said covering up the graffiti is a waste of money and resources as they would soon

be written over again rendering painting over them pointless.

"People are just going to keep doing it and doing it, and no one's being hurt by it," Venable said. "At least not in the girl's room."

Ruben Smith, junior, had a very different perspective.

"You go into the stall, and you are the kind of person who can be affected by the words," Smith said. "You go in and see that. It's not really self-expression but more like vulgarity and satire."

From Nazi symbolism to KKK graffiti, Smith believes there could be a greater effort cover up the vulgar parts of the bathroom walls.

"We cannot let someone who drew a swastika in the bathroom define our society," Smith said. "We have this ugly side of us, and that's bathroom graffiti."

Regardless of mixed opinions, graffiti exists as a letter to the world which produced it, a direct reflection etched rigged into the dying white paint of the bathroom stalls.

With negative and positive connotations alike, the chance for personal expression is always there.

The only question is should you take it?



# We need to break the stigma around toxic masculinity



Photo from Wikimedia.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

I am not a man. I am 4'11 and maybe around 115 pounds. I know someone like me writing an opinion on a topic like this is not ordeal.

I will admit that I have no idea what it means to be a man in today's society. After all, I am still trying to figure out what it means to be a woman, but that's a story for another day.

I understand that whatever words I write for this piece will not resonate with every male on the planet, and I can only imagine what the environment is like for the males in my life.

So, with that in mind, I am going to write this opinion piece the only way that I know how. I'll use research and explain my perspective on what I have been taught and what I have seen.

The way I was raised meant that men in today's society were strong, tough and brave. Nothing more,

and definitely nothing less. I was raised on a stereotype, just like we all were.

That stereotype grew up with me, and I saw it with every grade I entered and every PE lesson I had. The boys were rough and strong. It was just normal for them to be that way.

But what about the boys that didn't like dodgeball or basketball? If girls didn't want to play, they got out easily and sat down. If any young boy in my class did that, they were made fun of.

I probably had a hand in that, and I should have known better. But boys were tough, and it was all I knew.

We all have had a hand in what we now call "toxic masculinity." The Good Men Project defines toxic masculinity as "a narrow and repressive description of manhood, designating manhood as defined by violence, sex, status and aggression."

Toxic masculinity is this outdated idea that strength is everything while emotions are a weakness. Sex and violence are the standards by which men are judged.

Showing "feminine" traits such as "being soft" or fostering are the means by which your position as "man" can be taken away.

That stigma is everywhere. I have seen this toxic pressure at my house with my father and my brothers. It is at the gym and at

school, especially high school.

There are terrible comments online. There are men calling one another insulting names. There is even horrific graffiti in the men's restroom.

The whole concept is appalling and very easy to buy into.

The phrase toxic masculinity is such a touchy thing for guys, and I am aware of this. I asked a couple guys if they would like to write on this topic, and they all said no. They all pretty much said that they stay away from a topic like this.

I respect that. At least they were honest with me when they told me no. I know how scary it seems to put an opinion out in the world, and the last thing anyone wants is to piss people off.

Actor Justin Baldoni did a TED Talk called "Why I'm done trying to be 'man enough.'"

In the video he talks about his effort to reconcile who he is with who the world tells him a man should be. He wants to start a dialogue about redefining masculinity. In the video, he gives the men a challenge.

"I challenge you to see if you can use the same qualities that you feel make you a man to go deeper into yourself," Baldoni said. "Your strength, your bravery, your toughness: Can we redefine what those mean and use them to explore our hearts? Are you brave enough to be vulnerable?"

I have trouble asking for help. The last thing I want people to see me as is weak.

I want to prove to everyone that I can do things on my own. I want the world to never underestimate my abilities. I want everyone to see me as brave, smart and strong woman.

I can guarantee that is what men want too. So, to the man reading this, you and I may understand one another better than we think we do.

I know this is a reach coming from me, but it is okay to ask for help. We, as a society, need to stop pretending that men will never have mental and physical problems.

To the men out there: you cannot do this alone, and you don't have to. You are human, and humans screw things up. I don't expect you to change overnight. To finally accept the emotional vulnerability that scares the crap out of you will take time, but I believe in you.

I do not know what goes on inside a male's head. Honestly, I don't want to. I have stuff in my own head that I have to deal with. What I do know is that we all deserve help no matter what gender you are.

The stigma that there are many ways to be a girl but only one way to be a boy will be erased. I hope that a male will see more thoughts like this the next time he goes to the bathroom.



# NSYou

## What are some things you do to motivate yourself?



“A few things I do to motivate myself are smiling and laughing. It really helps to know that whatever happens in the end I did my best and I had fun.”

**Shatney Winslow**  
Junior  
Fine and Graphic Arts



“To motivate myself I surround myself with positive people! The right friends will support you and help you feel motivated.”

**Jacob Ellis**  
Senior  
Business Administration



“To motivate myself I keep myself organized and try to keep an open mind set. Every morning I find an inspirational message to start my morning, and I use that to keep me going through the day.”

**Kierra Linden**  
Sophomore  
Hospitality Management and Tourism



“To motivate myself I like to listen to encouraging music and internally hype myself up.”

**Emmaleigh Toney**  
Sophomore  
Secondary Education

# Students shouldn't suffer due to faculty and staff unprofessionalism

Professors and unprofessionalism seem like two words that should never be in the same sentence. The unprofessionalism seen in some faculty and staff at this university has The Editorial Board raising our eyebrows and scratching our heads.

We are all in the beginning of the hardest part of the semester. Students, faculty and staff should be banding together, not splitting up. We feel like the longer classes continue, the more unorganized professors become. Students should not face consequences because of their slack.

Students are doing the absolute

best they can, yet some faculty and staff make students feel that their work is never enough. There are some faculty and staff that believe their status means that they can talk down to students and get away with it.

Also, some faculty and staff need to stay in their department and not pry in to another that they have no business in.

NSU needs to have their faculty and staff get a reality check. They are not perfect, and neither are the students.

If faculty and staff make such a point about their schedule and office hours, they should stick to it.

When a student asks a question in class about a mistake that they made, they should not catch an attitude and reverse the blame on

the student(s). If they expect us to follow the professionalism rules in the syllabus, they need to be held to that same standard.

The Editorial Board is aware that not all faculty and staff are this way, as some run their classrooms better than the government can run our country. All students should have a close partnership with a faculty or staff member.

They are here to help us. So please, we beg of you, help us. We recognize the struggle of the faculty and staff, so they should recognize our struggle. Blowing up in each other's faces will neither help anyone nor solve whatever problem there is.

In a way, we are all partly unprofessional.

## Guess the organization from the picture!



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# Athlete of the Week: Kyle Moore

**Anson Ballow**  
*Sports Editor*

Hailing from Magnolia, Texas, Kyle Moore is the son of a Southland Conference defensive alumni who decided to fulfill his dream of playing Division 1 football by joining the Demon roster after just one year at Navarro College.

An All-Montgomery County Second-Team selection, Moore accompanied 61 tackles and three interceptions to capstone a breakout senior season at Magnolia West High School, leading him to the opportunity to play at the junior college level at Navarro College.

This interim stage between high school and Division 1 athletics allowed for Moore to solidify his foundation as a defensive playmaker, making strides towards playing fast and making intelligent plays.

This is what caught the eye of the Demons defensive coordinator, Mike Lucas. Lucas also happened



**In his first season as a Demon, Moore made an instant impact on and off the field, playing in all 11 games and recording 21 tackles.**  
*Photo by Gary Hardamon.*

to be the defensive coordinator of Moore's father, Mitchell Moore, when he was an athlete at Sam Houston State over two decades ago.

Even before Kyle changed his number to 35 to match his father's, Lucas saw intangible evidence that

the younger Moore shared the same great qualities that make star players.

"Their work ethic (is similar)," Lucas said. "Their attitude. They're both yes sir, no sir. You can coach them hard, and they'll get after it.

They respond well to coaching."

"You can tell Mitch raised Kyle old school," Lucas said. "Nowadays, you coach some kids hard and they pout. Kyle doesn't. He's been parented hard and raised that way. He's got a work ethic in the weight room and the offseason program like his dad had. Mitchell was a good player for us, and Kyle's cut out of the same mold."

In his first season as a Demon, Moore made an instant impact on and off the field, playing in all 11 games and recording 21 tackles.

In addition, Moore made the 2018 Southland Conference Commissioner's Fall Honor Roll, joining the growing ranks of academically accomplished student athletes at Northwestern State.

Moore is a junior year technical engineering major who wishes to own his own business someday. He'll next step on the field Oct. 12 in Thibodaux, Louisiana, against Nicholls State.

## Career weekend earns Lohmiller Southland honor

**Brad Welborn**  
*Assistant Director of Communications*

NATCHITOCHES – Following career performances to open Southland Conference play, senior libero Megan Lohmiller was named the SLC Defensive Player of the Week, the league office announced Monday. This is the third weekly honor for Northwestern State volleyball this season. Hannah Brister has two offensive awards from earlier this year.

The Heath, Texas, native recorded back-to-back 20-dig matches for the first time in her career, totaling 49 digs and a 6.1 per set average. She set a new career best with 27 digs in the four-set loss to Sam Houston on Thursday and followed that with a 22-dig outing in the win versus Houston Baptist on Saturday. Her efforts helped the Lady Demons hold their opponents to a .169 hitting percentage for the



*Graphic from nsudemons.com.*

weekend.

Lohmiller has collected 236 digs thus far this season, reaching 10 or more in all but two matches this year, and 20 or more four times. She currently ranks seventh in the SLC in total digs and eighth in digs per set at 4.29.

For her career, Lohmiller is closing in on the 1,000-dig

milestone, needing just 23 more to reach the mark. She would be the ninth player in NSU history to join the elite defensive club.

The Lady Demons continue their conference schedule with a pair of road matches this week. Thursday NSU takes on Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and Saturday play at Incarnate Word.

### GAME SCHEDULE

#### Football

10/12/19 3 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, Louisiana  
vs. Nicholls

#### Volleyball

10/3/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Corpus Christi, Texas  
vs. Texas A&M - Corpus Christi

10/5/19 12 p.m.  
@San Antonio, Texas  
vs. Incarnate Word

10/8/19 12 p.m.  
@Prather Colisseum  
vs. Lamar

#### Soccer

10/4/19 7 p.m.  
@Abeline, Texas  
vs. Abeline Christian

10/6/19 12 p.m.  
@San Antonio, Texas  
vs. Incarnate Word

10/11/19 7 p.m.  
vs. Sam Houston State

### Results of last week's schedule

#### Football

9/28/19 6 p.m.  
vs Southeastern State  
L 27-44

#### Volleyball

9/26/19 6:30 p.m.  
vs Georgia State  
L 1-3  
9/28/19 11 a.m.  
vs Houston Baptist  
W 3-1

#### Soccer

9/27/19 7 p.m.  
vs. Lamar  
W 2-1  
9/29/19 1 p.m.  
vs. McNeese  
L 1-2





# Impeachment inquiry

## What is it, and how does it affect NSU students?

House Democrats are conducting an official impeachment inquiry into President Trump over contacts with Ukraine about Joe Biden, former vice president. Photo Editor Mekayla Jenkins interviewed Dr. Greg Granger, professor in the Department of Criminal Justice, History, and Social Sciences, about impeachment and how it affects NSU students.

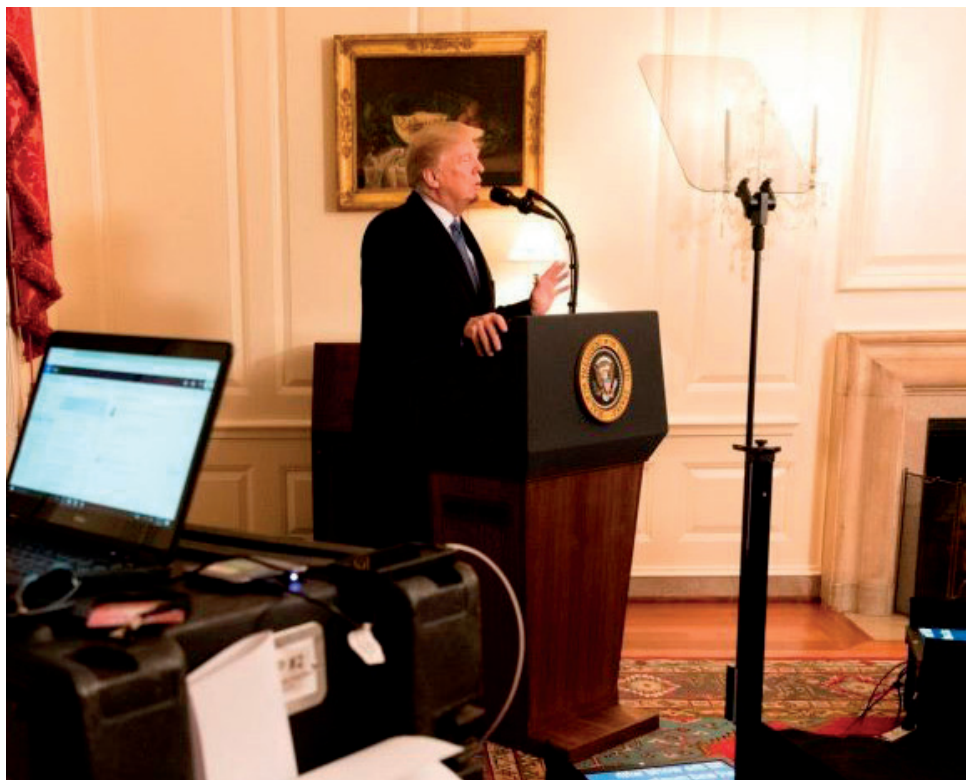


Photo courtesy of Whitehouse.gov.

**Mekayla Jenkins**

Photo editor

### What is impeachment?

The Constitution states that the President and all civil officers, that is non-military government officers, are subject to impeachment and removal from office. The two are separate processes.

Impeachment is a function of the House of Representatives and can be compared to an indictment in criminal law processes. The House acts as a Grand Jury in considering evidence of allegedly impeachable offenses as outlined in Articles of Impeachment.

To impeach the president is to formally charge the president with what the Constitution calls "Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors." Controversy arises from the fact that the Constitution does not define "high Crimes and Misdemeanors," leaving it to the House of Representatives to do so on a case by case basis.

It is generally agreed that an actual criminal offense is not necessary to be an impeachable offense. An impeachable offense could be an abuse of power or behavior that violates the basic expectations of those in office.

### What does the impeachment process look like?

The House becomes akin to a Grand Jury in weighing evidence against the charged official. To impeach the official requires a simple majority of the House, or 218 votes to impeach.

There are usual multiple Articles of Impeachment, for example, not only on suspect behavior but also on efforts to cover up misbehavior, or obstruction of justice. Each Article of Impeachment receives a vote.

If passed, the Articles of Impeachment are sent to the Senate, which then becomes a Trial Court. If the president is being impeached, the Chief Justice of the United States presides over the trial.

To convict the impeached official requires approval by at least two-thirds of the Senate, or 67 out of 100 votes. If convicted by 2/3's vote, the official is removed from office. There is no additional sentencing.

The official might be subject to criminal or civil court proceedings after leaving office

### What past presidents have been impeached, and what was that like?

In 1868, Andrew Johnson was impeached by the House but was not convicted in the Senate, succeeding by a margin of just one vote. The specific charge against Johnson was that he violated the Tenure of Office Act, which Congress had passed by overriding Johnson's veto. The overall issue was about the balance of power between the Republicans in Congress and the Democrat that Abraham Lincoln had chosen as vice president.

The second president to be impeached was William J. Clinton in 1998 during the president's second term. He was impeached for perjury and obstruction of justice. Like Andrew Johnson, Clinton was not convicted in the Senate and remained in office.

In 1974, Richard M. Nixon resigned after it had become obvious that he would be impeached and most likely convicted in the Senate for contempt of Congress, abuse of power and obstruction of justice relative to investigations into the Watergate scandal.

### How does the impeachment affect NSU students?

Like all persons in America or serving abroad, NSU students are affected by the behavior of governing officials. In a free republic, students possess the right to know about and the civic duty to be informed enough to assess the situation when there are serious charges of political and/or legal malpractice by civil and military officials. The integrity of our Constitutional system allows for the policies and elections we depend upon to manage society.

### What's the current status of the impeachment inquiry?

As of right now, the House as a whole as not voted to proceed with impeachment procedures against the sitting president. It is unclear as to whether a vote of the full House is required to proceed. In this case, the Speaker of the House has instructed committees to commence investigations possibly leading to Articles of Impeachment that would then be offered for a vote of the full House.

## Election Results:

### Statewide

#### **Governor:**

(runoff) John Bel Edwards and Eddie Rispone

#### **Lieutenant Governor:**

Billy Nungesser

#### **Attorney General:**

Jeff Landry

#### **Treasurer:**

John Schroder

#### **Insurance Commissioner:**

Jim Donelon

#### **Agriculture Commissioner:**

Mike Strain

#### **Secretary of State:**

(runoff) Kyle Ardoin and Gwen Collins-Greenup

#### **Amendment 1:**

failed

Do you support an amendment to exempt raw materials, goods, commodities, personal property, and other articles stored in public and private warehouses and destined for the Outer Continental Shelf from ad valorem taxes?

#### **Amendment 2:**

passed

Do you support an amendment to provide for appropriations from the Education Excellence Fund for the Louisiana Educational Television Authority, Thrive Academy, and laboratory schools operated by public postsecondary education institutions?

#### **Amendment 3:**

passed

"Do you support an amendment to protect taxpayers by requiring a complete remedy in law for the prompt recovery of any unconstitutional tax paid and to allow the jurisdiction of the Board of Tax Appeals to extend to matters related to the constitutionality of taxes?"

#### **Amendment 4:**

failed

Do you support an amendment to allow the City of New Orleans to exempt property within Orleans Parish from all or part of ad valorem taxes that would otherwise be due for the purpose of promoting affordable housing?

*Amendment descriptions are ballot language provided by the Secretary of State website*

### Natchitoches Parish

#### **State Senator - 29th Senatorial District:**

Jay Luneau

#### **State Senator - 31st Senatorial District:**

Louie Bernard

#### **State Representative 22nd Representative District:**

Carl Ray Lasyone

#### **State Representative 24th Representative District:**

Rodney Schamerhorn

#### **Sheriff:**

Stuart Wright

#### **Parish President:**

(runoff) John Richmond and Lee Waskom

#### **Council Member - District 1:**

Chris Paige

#### **Council Member - District 2:**

Patsy Ward Hoover

#### **Council Member - District 3:**

Jim Kilcoyne

#### **Council Member - District 4:**

(runoff) Marty Cheatwood and Justin Lester

#### **Council Member - District 5:**

(runoff) Russell Rachal and John Salter

#### **Mayor - Town of Campti:**

LaRon Winslow

Runoff elections will be Saturday, Nov. 16

What do NSU students think about the impeachment inquiry? See poll results on page 5



# NSU makes a difference overseas through the Cultural Exploration Organization

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Last semester, the Cultural Exploration Organization provided clean water for kids in Nigeria by building them a well. Now, thanks to its latest project, the group has provided the kids with water bottles, mosquito nets and sandals as well.

The Cultural Exploration Organization built the well thanks to generous donors in Natchitoches. Maina Ibn-Mohammed, president of the Cultural Exploration Organization, said that by building the well, the group gave kids access to clean water 24 hours a day.

Although the kids had water, Ibn-Mohammed realized the only way the kids could drink the water was by using their hands. Meanwhile, some of the kids could not afford shoes, and others were dying of malaria. The Cultural Exploration Organization decided to revisit its well project and provide the kids with water bottles, mosquito nets and sandals.

The Cultural Exploration Organization sent money to its committee in Nigeria by holding fundraisers at NSU and collecting contributions from local donors. The committee used the money to purchase supplies from small businesses in Nigeria so that they would be supported too.

Ibn-Mohammed said the project was about promoting human quality.

“We looked at some of the areas where people are in desperate need, and we said we’d help them in that way,” Ibn-Mohammed said.

Elijah Jno Baptiste, senior, has been involved with the CEO as treasurer since his freshman year. Jno Baptiste helped with the water bottle, mosquito net and sandals project by creating an online fundraiser and raising over \$250. Jno Baptiste said the most rewarding part of the project was getting to help the kids.

“When Maina sent me the pictures and videos it really sunk in,” Jno Baptiste said. “It’s an amazing feeling.”

For its next project, the CEO is focusing on sponsoring one kid at a time in order to leave a greater impact.

“We’re already leaving a mark in their life, but if we target these kids one at a time, we boost these kids’ dreams forward,” Ibn-Mohammed said.

“We are not rich, but we try our best to raise money and help someone else that really needs it,” Saily Romero, senior and member of the Cultural Exploration Organization, said.

Romero said that as an international student, helping the kids in Africa touched her a lot.

“The fact that we’re helping people abroad is like, wow,” she said.

Students wishing to get involved with CEO are encouraged to join at any time. The group posts updates on its projects on Instagram @ceo\_nsula.

## Cane River Reading Series presents Zach VandeZande

**Ruben Smith**  
NSU Student

The Cane River Reading Series will host Zach VandeZande, a writer from Washington, at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Student Union Ballroom.

He is the author of the novel “Apathy and Paying” and the new collection of short stories “Liminal

Domestic.”

His work has also been featured in “Ninth Letter,” “Gettysburg Review,” “Georgia Review” and “Sundog Literature.”

It will be free and open to the public, and listeners will have a chance to hear VandeZande’s work, have a Q&A with the author and get copies of his book for signing afterwards.

# HOMECOMING EVENT SCHEDULE

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16**  
**GLOBAL DAY DRESS UP**  
**ENCOURAGED**

**WHAT: FUN RUN**  
**TIME: 3 P.M.**  
**LOCATION: ORG ROW**

**THURSDAY, OCT. 17**  
**FAVORITE ANIMAL DRESS**  
**UP ENCOURAGED**

**WHAT: GOAT YOGA**  
**TIME: 11 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**  
**LOCATION: CHAPLIN'S LAKE**

**FRIDAY, OCT. 18**  
**FAVORITE CLASSIC DISNEY**  
**CHARACTER DRESS UP**  
**ENCOURAGED**

**WHAT: HOMECOMING PARADE**  
**TIME: 5:30 P.M.**

**WHAT: HOMECOMING**  
**PEP RALLY, CONCERT,**  
**AWARDS AND FORKTASMIC**  
**TIME: FOLLOWING PARADE**  
**LOCATION: FRONT STREET**  
**STAGE**

**FOLLOW @NSU\_UPC TO KEEP UP WITH**  
**HOMECOMING ACTIVITIES**



# Faculty Feature: Dr. Coreil, a “toot on your own horn” enthusiast



**Dr. Kristine Coreil is a Professor of Music and has been with Demon family for 25 years. She mostly plays the French horn. Photo by Chris Reich.**

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

Dr. Kristine Coreil is a Professor of Music and has been with Demon family for 25 years. She mostly plays the French horn.

Coreil is the sixth kid out of seven and is from in a small town called Jackson, Louisiana.

“My older sisters and brothers were all in the high school band,” she said. “The high school band director was a woman who played the French horn, and I must have toddled around with them when I was so little.”

She knew she wanted to play the French horn as long as she can remember.

“I think it’s because I looked up to her and her band directing skills,” she said.

That woman was Marie Cotaya, who was inducted into the Louisiana Music Educators Association in 1993.

“We have the LMEA Hall of Fame here, and so everybody’s picture is on the wall in the hallway by the Magale Recital Hall,” she said.

Coreil went to the Louisiana School for Math, Science and Arts and is a part of the first graduating class. It is one of the reasons she chose NSU.

“Those days we were able to take music classes at NSU,” she said. “I was already playing in NSU band and orchestra. I took horn and piano lessons from the NSU

faculty, and I took music theory classes already.”

Coreil also has an English certification.

“When I was a student here, I was a [...] music education [major] to be a band director, but I also did a certification to teach English,” she said. “I’ve never used it, but maybe one day in my retirement years I could go back and teach English.”

She plays in the Shreveport Symphony along with the Rapides Symphony in Alexandria. She also plays in the South Arkansas Symphony.

“I like playing in the Shreveport Symphony,” she said. “It’s a really nice sized orchestra. I think the quality of musicians is really high for a place like Shreveport.”

She never felt pressure to play an instrument because all her siblings did. She just knew she wanted to play.

“They all took piano lessons, and then I would just take their piano books and figure it out on my own,” she said. “It was never a point of ‘I feel pressurized to do this.’ It was more like ‘I can’t wait to do this.’”

Music was a central part of her childhood. She can play the piano, the organ and horn.

“In the horn world my favorite lesson to teach is about how to use the air,” she said. “It’s always a really important lesson that we just hammer in a lot about how to use the air, how to breathe well and how to blow out well.”

A stereotype of music majors is that they already know everything about their instrument. Coreil

debunked that stereotype and explained that students who major in music usually realize that they have a lot more to learn.

“Very rarely will we get a freshman who has that attitude,” she said. “Usually they are totally sold, and they want to know more about music. They want to learn a better technique.”

Coreil compares teaching this instrument to an athletic event.

“You have to use muscles,” she said. “On the horn, we have to have flexibility. We have to have stamina. We have to have endurance. speed. We have to play really fast notes. There are all sorts of hand-eye coordination. Well that’s mostly finger-tongue coordination. We have muscles we have to work out.”

Her students are always ready to go to the next level.

The music department has 18 French horn majors, and she teaches one on one.

“I take them where they are,” she said. “If one student is here and wants to go there, that doesn’t mean that I’m going to teach that same lesson to this student who’s over here. This student might just learn their scales, and this one knows all their scales. They might be learning some faster techniques. So, you have to take it one on one,” she said.

She hopes her students get the joy of playing music from her lessons.

“A big notion for me is I want it to be fun,” she said. “It’s not just fun. Sometimes it’s hard work, but the hard work allows us to have fun on the horn.”



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic! Your tips so far this semester have really been helping me a lot. I’ve stumbled across a subject that’s always been present, but I don’t know how to handle it in college: peer pressure. How do I survive peer pressure in college?

**A** Peer pressure will always be present, but here are a few tips that should help out.

- **Be yourself.** NSU is a place full of opportunities. Find groups and organizations that fit you, and the right friends will follow.

- **Just say no.** If you’re put in a situation that makes you feel uncomfortable, you can always say no. You make your own decisions.

- **Don’t allow people to force you to do something you don’t want to do.** Trust yourself.

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



## Alexa, play Sweater Weather by The Neighbourhood

How to dress for fall weather

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

It's actually sort of, kind of, hopefully sweater weather! Grab your pumpkin spice latte from the cafe, walk around campus crunching the leaves as you go and get ready for fall. It's almost on its way.

With sweater weather comes the wearing of said sweater. You throw on your sweater, jeans and boots and walk out of your dorm or apartment just to realize that this outfit isn't up to your style anymore. It's too plain. It's too basic.

We just got done with hot girl summer, and we aren't going into Christian girl autumn. So how do you spice up this outfit?

There's nothing cozier than an oversized sweater, but in the heat it can feel like a lot of fabric. To fix this, try wearing just an oversized sweater paired with knee-high boots, ankle boots or just block heels. You can also wear chunky dad sneakers with it, my favorite.

Now the oversized trend is always going to be around, but I love the cropped sweater look. There's nothing that I love more than strutting around in high-waisted pants, a cropped sweater and heels to add length.

The general rule for outfits is that if it's shows more leg try dressing it down with flat shoes. If you have long pants or a longer dress, try to add length to yourself by wearing heels or taller shoes. It can elevate any outfit.

Remember that fashion has no rules, so try wearing platform sneakers or wedged boots if you don't like heels.

Another outfit you could try is a sweater tucked outside of a skirt or any bottoms to give a different silhouette if you'd like to try something new. My favorite look is a pleated skirt with a pastel sweater while adding a fanny-pack type of purse to identify your hips.

Pairing it with socks that match your sweater can help convince anyone that you just strutted your way out of Gossip Girl, especially when paired with loafers.

No matter how you wear your sweaters, just take in the crisp air and get ready for fall!

# The dead and undying: why we study ancient language



**E Pluribus Unum: a phrase engraved on every American coin thought to be forgotten but always there.** *Photo by Brianna Corley.*

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

*E Pluribus Unum:* a phrase engraved on every American coin thought to be forgotten but always there.

Out of many, one, as it translates, exists not only as a testament to the influence ancient languages still hold but to the fact that they are far from dead.

"To say that they are not used and to not realize how much influence they still have in the modern world is a mistake," Professor of Classics Dr. T. Davina McClain said. "Because we don't think about language, we use and abuse English constantly. We don't think about how we express ourselves. We don't think about what we really mean. We don't understand our own grammar."

McClain states that she resents the term dead to refer to ancient languages as they are far from not being used. Latin exists and is spoken widely among many groups. The Greek of The Odyssey is still what is spoken in Greece today.

Even the languages in ancient context still wield incredible impact

in law, medicine and the study of culture.

"Studying these languages help students understand there are different ways to think," McClain said. "We can read these stories and see those lessons in an image that is maybe not our own society, but we don't feel it in a way that ancient texts make us feel."

Out of the many lessons that can be learned from studying ancient text, an openness to difference, to self-criticism and to self-awareness are what McClain values most. She thinks learning a language by the terms of its own rules causes students to think more critically about what that means for them and look at the world at large and their place in it.

"There is a difference to reading Homer in the Greek," McClain said. "Hearing the sound of an ancient voice, you can read it and know that was the sound someone heard a thousand years ago. Realizing we're a tiny part of the continuum can help us be a little less egotistical."

Catelyn Errington, sophomore, also attests to the difficulty and careful thought put into translating languages, noting that even professionals find varying translations of the same text. The

smallest flaw can make the greatest difference.

"As soon as you translate you lose meaning," Errington said. "Latin was the language of scholars for such a long period of time and the best way to go back and understand what those people were saying."

Zoe Hebert, junior, believes that being able to translate an ancient text herself brings a richness to the reading experience because of the ability to catch mistakes and taking meaning out of the language for herself.

"You're discovering a whole new meaning behind these texts that you couldn't do in English because English is such a limited language," Hebert said. "The context changes, but the messages are always going to be important."





## NSYou

**Should President Trump be impeached?**

**65%**

**yes, he should**

**35%**

**no, it's just allegations**

## Twitter

**71%**

**yes, he should**

**29%**

**no, it's just allegations**

## Instagram

**52%**

**yes, he should**

**48%**

**no, it's just allegations**

# Cable news is a war zone for truth

**Keator Poleman**

*NSU Student*

Since the 2016 election, America has been in a tug of war over which news outlets to trust and which are “fake news.”

America’s trust in the media is at 41%, and it is not hard to see why.

We are constantly bombarded by ads, news blips and posts shared across social media. It is hard to tell the real news from the “fake news.”

Cable news, for example, has turned living rooms into battlegrounds where family members argue over the credibility of a particular host or channel.

While some programs on CNN, Fox and MSNBC have anchors trying their best to relay the most reliable information to the American people, the channels are littered with political commentary.

The hosts fill their time slots with accusations more than actually trying to report the facts.

Sean Hannity, host of Hannity on Fox News, constantly attacks the left for its “phony witch hunt” against President Trump. Some

of the more liberal hosts, Chris Matthews of MSNBC for example, visit late night TV and are hailed as heroes in the “war on Trump.”

A Pew research poll found that 46% to 55% of individuals thought CNN and Fox News, respectively, were dominated by opinion. MSNBC likewise is viewed as biased by 85% of those polled.

While it seems no matter what channel you turn on there will be nothing but biased reporting, there are some host and outlets worth paying attention to.

CBS, ABC and PBS are viewed as more factual.

31% of American adults view PBS News as more factual, according to a Gallup/Knight Foundation poll.

The ABC, NBC and CBS nightly news broadcast deliver news with less of a bias than what is found on the Fox News or CNN equivalent.

For those who enjoy the broadcast networks but don’t like the commentary can also check out the station’s website or app. These versions are more well in depth than the broadcast counterparts and will be more easily identifiable as opinion.

One of the good things about the digital age is that we have a variety of news sources. However, we must be cautious of the news we consume.

If you are not sure about a story you heard from a news outlet, find another source and check it out. Do research and make sure what you are listening to or reading is factual.

Do not just share a Facebook post because you saw it said something about someone and you think that it is true. Double check the accuracy and make yourself aware of what is real news.

If we do not start verifying the news we consume, then the problem will never be fixed, and our idea of what constitutes as truth will become murkier than ever.



# We are way past the period of slut-shaming

**Thomas Celles**

*Reporter*

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

In modern society, it is almost common for a man to have a double personality. He interacts with his fellow men one way then completely changes his persona when speaking to women.

A prime example of this is the phenomenon of slut-shaming. A slut as defined in Merriam-Webster as, “a promiscuous woman: a woman who has many sexual partners.”

Notice how the word man is nowhere to be found?

There is the cycle of a man trying to sleep with a woman, and if successful, he proceeds to brag to his friends about the ease of his “achievement” in order to look cool.

We live in a society where fear of rejection causes us to suppress our insecurities and put up a “tough front” with our peers. This is one big reason why you hear stories on the news about men assaulting or murdering women who rejected them.

This has created a defensive

society where women are taught to protect themselves from the actions of others instead the perpetrators being taught not to do said actions.

Why do men slut-shame, and how do they do it?

It is not that men are looking to purposefully hurt someone. They do it as a reputation booster among their friends. Men, and women, want a self-esteem boost given through the admiration of their peers.

Slut-shaming can be considered a form of bullying, which stems from insecurities. Similarly, bullying is meant to increase someone’s social standing at the expense of others.

Todd Byrd, a counselor focused on helping men deal with life struggles said in “Men’s Journal” that a common insecurity in men is not meeting expectations.

By bragging about the ease of their “accomplishment,” it makes them seem more manly and cooler.

It is more than hurtful. Shaming a woman and degrading her reputation for the purpose of boosting your own helps no one, especially if a man thinks he may have another chance at “succeeding.”

By keeping this type of activity

alive, you also make it more difficult for oneself and for others

Slut-shaming is not just outright saying she’s a slut. You can slut shame a woman without actually calling her that.

Phrases like “of course I slept with her” and “hey man, you should hit up so-and-so” are examples of ways that may seem innocent among the “bros” but can be upsetting to women.

The whole concept perpetuates a culture where women are ashamed of having sex and men can be proud of it.

It is 2019. We all need to get rid of this mindset. Women like sex as much as men do and should not have to feel the need to hide who they sleep with to avoid being labeled as being “easy.”

If men want sex, then they should stop belittling the people they want to sleep with.

It just makes sense.





# Demon Debate: Should cell phones be allowed in the classroom?

## Faculty perspective

### CON: Elaine Eaton

*Instructor, Theodore Harris Endowed Professor of Rhetoric & Debate  
Department of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts*

While I know it's impossible to keep cell phones out of the classroom, I do my best to encourage students to "button up or zip up" their phones so we can focus on the contents of my course and, more importantly, the other human beings in the classroom.

I know that as an instructor I am not ALWAYS engaging, but I would rather my students be bored than distracted. Cell phones are a distraction.

Let me repeat, I would rather that if my students are not engaged in the lecture or group work that they are bored.

While this may seem strange coming from an instructor, research shows boredom is extremely important to creativity in humans.

According to the article "Bored & Brilliant" published by National Public Radio, "Studies suggest that we get our most original ideas when we stop the constant stimulation and let ourselves get bored, Zomorodi says."

Even more importantly identity creation emerges from boredom.

"Zomorodi says studies also show that smartphones impinge on our ability to do 'autobiographical

planning' or goal setting, which may keep us even more stuck in a rut," according to the article "Bored & Brilliant" published by National Public Radio.

Ultimately, I want my students to find happiness, and one of the strongest indicators of happiness is how many interactions we have with other humans throughout the day. When you are on your phone you are literally making yourself less happy.

"The 80-year-long Grant & Glueck Harvard Study of Adult Development revealed that the close relationships you have, like spouses, family, friends, and social circles, can help you live longer and feel happier," Yale professor Laurie Santos said.

These connections don't have to be with family and close friends. Even interactions with strangers can be positive.

"Most people think a simple chat with a stranger will be awkward and not very good for well-being, but it turns out that simple connection with people we don't know feels amazing. It's a great way to feel less lonely and to boost our mood. Even for introverts," Santos said.

### PRO: Dr. Christopher Lyles

*Director and Assistant Professor  
School of Biological and Physical Science*

The reason why I stopped fighting cell phones in the classroom is because I started doing a lot of work at the University of Louisiana System level. I remember watching or hearing some project about having anxiety and having problems when you don't have the ability to click on your phone.

I could be separated from my phone when I was a professor, but in my current position I can't be without my phone without having a sense of "am I missing the hundreds of emails that are coming in," and I am always on some piece of technology from 8 am to 5 pm.

This has changed the way that I work because now I must check my phone, and if I do not check it then I feel very strange about it.

Now that being said, I don't allow people to pull out their phones and start playing on them in my class.

In Bienvenu, there are glass walls on some of our classrooms, and I can go behind them and say, "you need to stop playing on your phone while the professor is lecturing."

I do that all the time now, but

I also designed some structured research activity within the class.

The research at the University of Louisiana System conference taught me that professors have about 15 minutes before students start getting fidgety.

If it's a Tuesday and Thursday class I will stop and say, "I need you to research this question." I will have them pull their phone out and research the answer to whatever question related to the lesson.

That small amount of interaction with their technology breaks up the class, and it makes everything a lot easier to move forward.



## Letter to the Editor

To The Editor:

With all due respect to my fellow Americans, most of us simply don't know that a "liberal/progressive" is not the same thing as a "socialist."

A true "socialist" is someone who wants all of the businesses and workplaces to be owned and controlled by "the state" or "the government" or "the workers" or "the people" and not by individuals and groups of people who run them for profit as we have here in the U.S.

The overwhelming majority of Democrats want our federal government to spend more on social programs to help the lower and middle classes as they struggle to survive and pay their bills. They are not "socialists."

They are "liberals/progressives" who want our market-based capitalist economic system to become more humane, not replaced, by having our federal government spend more to help the lower and middle classes.

They know all too well that there has never been a truly "socialist" economy in which socialism produced enough wealth to meet

people's basic needs. It has never "worked."

Thus, while most Americans seem not to be aware of this, and while conservative-Republican politicians and the conservative news media do not want the American people to be aware of this, most Democrats want our federal government to be more like those of almost every single one of our traditional allies, such as Canada and western Europe, whose federal governments spend more than we do, in proportion to their population sizes, to help their lower and middle class citizens.

None of our allies are truly "socialist." They know it, and they will tell you so.

To put this simply, President Trump and the conservative news media will most likely spend the next year calling all Democrats "crazy socialists," and, in doing so, will be either be intentionally lying to the American people, or be very poorly-informed and just plain wrong.

Sincerely,  
Stewart B. Epstein  
Rochester, New York

## Editorial The ups and downs of living on campus

Living on campus offers more of a support system through RAs, fun events and a sense of community. There is greater access to campus, and there is no need for a car.

It is safer compared to other living options off-campus, and the rent is paid once per semester instead of a month at a time. You do not have to have an empty occupancy that you are paying rent for in the summer.

However, living on campus can be extremely disorganized.

For example, one of our editors was given a warning of eventual eviction notice when they had already paid all fees at the start of the semester.

Housing also said they would withhold his or her place during the summer because they had not paid their fees to the university the semester before when he or she had.

They also used to change the gate code every few weeks during

the summer without notifying residents, causing one of our editors to get locked out of the dorm.

Both times our editor had to contact each and send screenshots of their account.

Another con is maintenance. Now we cannot speak for the other students, but for University Columns there is only one man who we very much appreciate.

Maintenance is understaffed, so clogged toilets and broken gates can be left for a while before getting to fix them.

On Sept. 30, a post in the student concerns page showed a dorm room having mold on the walls yet passed a health inspection. Students should not face a health risk from living in expensive, university-provided housing, especially if this is their only option.

Living on campus has its pros and cons, but the best part about living on campus is that its easier to get involved.



# Athlete of the Week: Hannah Brister



**Currently averaging 15.1 kills per game, Brister sits poised to become the seventh player to ever reach 400 kills in a single year with a chance to challenge the single-season record. Photo by Chris Reich.**

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

Junior outside Hannah Brister continues to define herself as the top offensive threat in the Southland Conference.

Now in her third year as a member of the Lady Demon Volleyball team, she tops the chart in offensive kills for the conference, needing just 14 more to achieve her second-straight 300 kill season.

Currently averaging 15.1 kills per

game, Brister sits poised to become the seventh player to ever reach 400 kills in a single year with a chance to challenge the single-season record.

She ranks nationally in the top-20 offensive players, sitting 16th in total kills, ninth in kills per set and 14th in points per set.

A Paincourtville, Louisiana native, Brister began to make a name for herself as a stand-out player at Assumption High School. Leading her team to three consecutive regional championships and two state runner-ups, she

accumulated multiple first-team all-district, all-region and all-state honors throughout her high school career.

During her senior year, she earned a spot as a member of the USA Volleyball High Performance A1 Team, the highest level of programming available to athletes in the select age group.

Brister began to make an impact immediately after stepping on court for the Lady Demons, appearing in 31 matches her freshman year. Named the Southland Conference Freshman of the Year, she entered

the 2018 season even stronger, leading the Lady Demons with 314 kills and finishing seventh in the Southland Conference.

Her success extends both on and off the court, demonstrating her strength both academically and athletically. She has won All-Conference academic team placements each year, culminating with her earning 2018 First-Team All-Louisiana honors.

Currently majoring in health and exercise science, Brister plans on pursuing a career in speech pathology.

## Demons face sixth consecutive loss against Nicholls

**Albert Hewitt**  
Contributing Writer

The Demons traveled down to Thibodaux this past Saturday to take on the Nicholls State University Colonels. The Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks are the official rivals for Northwestern State University, but the Colonels are a close second. This matchup is commonly known as the battle to see which school is the “real” NSU.

The Demons went into Saturday’s game fresh off their bye week.

“We had a great week of rest as we are able to return some guys to the lineup this week that had been

injured,” head coach Brad Laird said in a press conference prior to the game.

The Demons went into Saturday’s game in search of their first win this season. Although the Demons have had many positives to take away from each game, they have struggled to close out their opponents.

The Demons had a slow start in the opening quarter as they found themselves down 14 points going into the second quarter.

Before the half, running back Jared West put the Demons on the board as he ran for one yard to score his

third touchdown of the season. The Demons came out of the half stronger.

Quarterback Shelton Eppler, who finished with four touchdowns and 387 passing yards, threw two touchdowns in the third quarter. He was able to connect with wide receivers Quan Shorts and Gavin Landry to bring the Demons within ten points of the Colonels going into the fourth quarter.

Eppler did not stop there. After the Colonels were able to find the endzone early in the fourth, Eppler responded with a touchdown of his own. He found wide receiver Akile

Davis in the endzone for his third passing touchdown of the day. Davis only needed one hand to bring in the touchdown pass as he finished with 155 receiving yards on seven receptions.

Eppler would find Short again late in the fourth to score, but the two touchdown runs by Nicholls in the final quarter kept the Demons out of reach.

The final score was 45-35. The Demons return to Turpin Stadium this Saturday for homecoming where they will take on the Central Arkansas Bears. Kickoff is at 6 p.m.



# Demons Football falls short on expectations, look to turn it around

Anson Ballow  
Sports Editor

Saturday's loss marks the sixth consecutive loss in as many games this season as the Demons continue to struggle to hold it together through a full game. Hosting a roster lined with talent and potential, inconsistency seems to be the problem on all sides of the ball.

In his first season as head coach, Brad Laird began to reshape the image of a program that had become marked by consistently poor performance and an unenthused fan base. His effort culminated in a string of late-season victories that saw the Demons with their best win-loss record, 5-6, since 2014, 6-6.

Exactly halfway through the season, the Demons look back on a tough schedule. In their first six games, they've played against the FBS-ranked No. 2 SEC powerhouse LSU and two FCS top-25 ranked opponents.

While managing to demonstrate their potential in doses, the Demons struggle with firing on all-cylinders over the course of both halves. Their most recent game against FCS No. 9 Nicholls State was marked by slow starts in each half, a reoccurring issue for the Demons.

"Week in and week out, when you look at our conference, you have the opportunity to win games," Laird said following Saturday's 35-45 loss



Saturday's loss marks the sixth consecutive loss in as many games this season as the Demons continue to struggle to hold it together through a full game. Photo by Chris Reich.

to Nicholls State. "Starting fast is a key. We've shown what we're capable of doing whether it was the first half at LSU, the first half against Southeastern or what we did offensively in the second half (at Nicholls)."

"We've shown what we're capable of," Laird said. "Now we must put it together for 60 minutes in all three phases, and I'm looking forward to the opportunity to do that Saturday (against Central Arkansas)."

Failing to convert opportunities on third-down and in the red zone have plagued the Demons this season, as well as an abundance of penalties. Against then-No.9

Southeastern State, the Demons totaled 13 penalties, 10 of them being in the second half.

"That's one thing we really haven't faced in four weeks aside from the first quarter of the Midwestern State game," Laird said. "I've got to look at the film to see if they're effort penalties or were they not where they were supposed to be. You have (13) penalties, and it's hard to overcome that."

The frustration is also felt among some of the players.

"It's pretty frustrating that we can't put together a full game," senior wide receiver Quan Shorts said. "We came out so hot in the

first half (against Southeastern), and we wanted to take that momentum to the second half. We couldn't get it done. We have to get back to work and get ready for the next game."

As the Demons prepare for the second half of the season, maintaining consistency in all three phases through all 60 minutes is the key focus.

"These guys, we've got to keep working," Laird said. "We're going to get a win. We have to understand every week we have a chance to go 1-0, and we'll start that on Sunday."

The Demons take the field next at home on Saturday at 6 p.m. against the University of Central Arkansas in NSU's homecoming game.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Football

10/19/19 3 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs. Central Arkansas

### Soccer

10/18/19 7 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Soccer  
Complex  
vs. Texas A&M -  
Corpus Christi

10/20/19 1 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Soccer  
Complex  
vs. Houston Baptist

### Volleyball

10/19/19 11 a.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. McNeese

## Editorial Board

Samantha Clark  
Editor-in-Chief  
Leanna Coy  
News Editor

Brianna Corley  
Arts and Living Editor  
Trinity Velazquez  
Viewpoints Editor  
Brianna Fife  
Visual Editor

Anson Ballow  
Sports Editor  
Mekayla Jenkins  
Photo Editor

## Results of last week's schedule

### Football

10/12/19 3 p.m.  
vs Nicholls  
L 35-45

### Volleyball

10/3/19 6:30 p.m.  
vs. Texas A&M - Corpus  
Christi  
W 3-1  
10/5/19 12 p.m.  
vs. Incarnate Word  
W 3-2  
10/8/19 12 p.m.  
vs. Lamar  
W 3-0

### Soccer

10/4/19 7 p.m.  
vs. Abeline Christian  
T 1-1  
10/6/19 12 p.m.  
vs. Incarnate Word  
W 2-1  
10/11/19 7 p.m.  
vs. Sam Houston  
State  
W 1-0





# Student housing mold - who is responsible?

Kathleen Hilliard

Reporter

"Nothing is yet to be done after calling multiple times about the issue of mold in my friend's dorm, he even passed his HEALTH and safety inspection. Fork 'em demons," student Carson Brown's post said. Brown posted the complaint for a friend of his.

On Sept. 30, 2019, student Carson Brown posted this issue in the Facebook student concerns page in regards to mold in his friend's University Place dorm. He also shared pictures of the mold in the dorm and of the paper that said he passed his health and safety inspection.

The comments on the Facebook post were littered with other students mirroring his complaints with comments about pests such as German roaches and one comment from Stephanie Dyjack, the director of housing and residence life on campus at NSU.

"Water penetration of any kind is something that we look out for and that we ask residents to report immediately," Campus Living Villages said.

Campus Living Villages didn't address if mold is accounted for in the health and safety inspections.

Campus Living Villages asks that students report issues immediately and refer to the United States Environmental Agency Guidance when facing how to deal with mold and other infestations or how to

prevent such occurrences.

At LSU Shreveport, they have begun the process of acquiring the lease from Campus Living Villages on their campus. The choice to acquire the lease and the ability to run the LSU Shreveport housing property themselves is meant to provide the best customer service and education for their students.

"We understand the challenges of what goes on, and we want the best for our kids," Wendell Riley, the director of media and external relations at LSU Shreveport, said.

Campus Living Villages is an Australian-based company. This deters the company in the fact that they are less personally invested with the university apartments.

Riley spoke about how under their own umbrella, the team at LSU Shreveport could better address problems as they come up and be a more integrated part of their students' lives.

If LSU Shreveport does acquire the control of the lease and the ability to run the property themselves, Campus Living Villages would have no business or interest on the campus. LSU Shreveport could better respond to the student needs, connect them with the university and promote the best opportunities and best options for their students.

Riley also mentioned that LSU Shreveport is not bashing Campus Living Villages. They're simply committed to their students.

# Vic's announces new hours



Photo by Leanna Coy.

Leanna Coy

News Editor

With the opening of Steak n' Shake in the student union, students will no longer be able to eat at Vic's for dinner. Vic's main line and pizza area will close at 2:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and Subconnection as well as sections for grab-and-go items will close at 3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. All of Vic's will still be open until 2 p.m. on Fridays.

Steve Kauf, general manager of Sodexo, said the main reason the hours have been cut is because there is generally very little business after lunch. Kauf said Vic's used to close at 2 p.m. every day, but two years ago, Sodexo agreed to keep Vic's open until 7 p.m. to try to get more people in the student union.

"When The Grill closed this year, I decided instead of going back to closing Vic's at two at the

beginning of the year, we'd keep it open until Steak n' Shake opened," Kauf said.

As the semester goes along, Kauf said sales at Vic's tend to slow down.

"By the end of the semester, even last year with The Grill, we were only serving 10 or 15 people after 3 p.m.," Kauf said.

A few students have voiced concerns about the new hours. Some students will miss having the option to eat at Vic's for dinner. Although Steak n' Shake is open later, many students have dietary restrictions, and others simply want to eat something healthier than fast food.

Chrisshine Matthews, freshman, said it will be more difficult for her to eat on campus now.

For some students, however, the change has gone unnoticed. Sydney Bulot, junior, said she never really ate at Vic's after lunch anyway.



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## Quote of the Week

*"All you can change is yourself, but sometimes that changes everything."*

Gary W. Goldstein

**3 Arts & Living:** God lives in theater 2

**Viewpoints:** Unsigned:

**5** Everyone deserves respect regardless of their beliefs

**Sports:** Demon football falls

**7** short of getting their first season win



# NSU Chamber, Concert Choir to perform Thursday



**Northwestern State University Chamber Choir and Concert Choir will present their fall concert on Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Magale Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.**  
*Photo courtesy of <https://www.nsula.edu/news/>.*

**David West**  
*Director of Communications*

NATCHITOCHEs – The Northwestern State University Chamber Choir and Concert Choir will present their fall concert on Thursday, Oct. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Magale Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

Director of Choral Activities Dr. Nicholas B. Cummins conducts the Chamber Choir. Associate Director of Choral Activities Michael Rorex conducts the Concert Choir.

The Chamber Choir will perform “Alleluia Sancti Henrici” by Jaakko Mäntyjärvi, “Ave Maris Stella” by Trond Kverno

“Aftonen” by Hugo Alfven, “Maya Danser” by Per Nørgard, “Trilo” by Bengt Ollen featuring mezzo-soprano Emily Saldivar of Brownsville, Texas, and “Sakkijarven Polkka” arranged by Jonathan Rathbone, featuring sopranos Amanda Charles of Shreveport and Valentina Herrazo Alvarez of Cartagena, Colombia, and bass Jayvian Bush of Lafayette.

The Concert Choir will perform “A Jubilant Song” by Della Joio, “Rise Up my Love” by Bradley Ellingboe, “Afternoon On a Hill” by Barnum/Millay, “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” by Ken Berg and “New River Train” by Margaret Vance.

The premier vocal ensemble at

NSU, the 36-member Chamber Choir is comprised of the top vocalists at Northwestern State. Each December, the Chamber Choir performs their “Lessons and Carols” service at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, which has become a Natchitoches tradition. The ensemble has sung at state ACDA and LMEA conventions, performed by invitation at Carnegie Hall, placed second in the Laurea Mundi Budapest Choral Competition earlier this year. This past summer, the Chamber Choir earned third prize in the Ave Verum International Choral Competition in Baden, Austria. The ensemble also performed in three European capitals at Saint Martin’s Basilica in Prague, Czech Republic, Saint Peter’s Basilica in Vienna, Austria, and Saint Martin’s Cathedral in Bratislava, Slovakia. The Chamber Choir has been selected to perform at the National Collegiate Choral Organization Conference to be held Nov. 7-9 at the University of Maryland.

The Concert Choir is a select, auditioned mixed ensemble of 48 singers that performs traditional and contemporary choral literature. The Concert Choir sings a concert each semester and is the featured choir in the revived holiday tradition of the Community Christmas Carol Sing-along, which is performed with area church choirs.

# Columns Café will serve Greek dinner Oct. 24



**Columns Café graphic.** Photo courtesy of <https://www.nsula.edu/news/>.

**Leah Jackson**  
*Director of Public Information and Media Relations*

NATCHITOCHEs – The Columns Café at Northwestern State University will serve a Greek-inspired dinner from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24 in Room 225 of the Family and Consumer Sciences Building.

The menu will include saganaki (seared halloumi with peanut dukkah and honey, house made Greek cheese, seared, and served with honey and peanut dukkah), avgolemono soup with chicken and lemon, salata me portokalia kai elies (orange and olive arugula salad tossed with vinaigrette), braised leg of lamb, baklava and pita bread with tzatziki.

The price is \$45.  
The Columns Café is a hands-

on outreach of the Hospitality Management and Tourism program that serves lunches and dinners on select dates. The Café is located in Room 225 of the Family and Consumer Sciences Building. Guests must purchase tickets in advance and seating is directed so that all seats are filled.

The Columns Café is student-run with seasonal, locally sourced meals prepared in the culinary arts lab and served by students. The Café provides students with experiential learning in the logistics and teamwork required to plan, prepare and serve a formal dinner. All proceeds go towards support of HMT students and academic programming.

To purchase tickets visit <http://nsulahmt.eventbrite.com/> or contact Landon Amberg at (318) 357-5072 or [ambergl@nsula.edu](mailto:ambergl@nsula.edu)

## DemonWorld Unscramble

YCKMIE MUSOE	_____
DRINLEALEC	_____
HTE OILN KNIG	_____
IOLL ADN STTICH	_____
PSCERSIN AND HTE RFOG	_____
AANDLI	_____
YOOFG	_____
HET LILETT EAMDRIM	_____
NMUAL	_____
ACNILEFMET	_____



# God lives in theater 2



With no movie sounds, a band ready for worship is snugged tight in the front. Photo by Brianna Corley.

## Brianna Corley

Arts and Living Editor

On Sunday morning nearing 10 a.m., the movie theater parking lot sits cluttered with cars where there should be complete vacancy.

The door swings open to reveal Pastor Stephen Nelson offering a smile, a donut and direction to theater 2.

With no movie sounds, a band ready for worship is snugged tight in the front, and the first rows of cool, black seats are crowded with people in their Sunday best. The sermon begins with a welcome home.

"We got to the point where we weren't really growing, but we knew we needed to go to Sunday morning," Nelson said.

Awakening Church originally met on Sunday nights at First United Methodist Church and hosted bible studies at a neighboring coffee shop. Nelson's ambition for his vision of Awakening Church sought out an empty building to utilize Sunday morning sermons.

When reaching out to Parkway Cinema 6, where a previous church had recently moved out, Awakening Church was happily welcomed.

"We have a definite vision that we believe for this church, and it's really for displaced people and dechurched people," Nelson said. "College students that come here to Natchitoches are usually displaced."

Many will simply take to the Baptist, Methodist and Catholic options that span across Natchitoches, but Nelson wished for a place for those who found

there was nothing that quite fit them.

"That was really the vision we had," Nelson said. "If you felt like you didn't fit anywhere, we wanted you to know you belong here. I don't want to say it's an advantage, but it's something different."

The intimate setting of the movie theater allows Nelson to accomplish the goal of connection as he does not give the word from a stage but rather from the floor. He even sits in with the audience during moments of worship when the band is playing.

"We try to make it conversational where there's at least a little bit of the time during the sermon where there's interaction," Nelson said. "You feel more connected, I think."

This idea of closeness was noticed by Ayrianna Edwards, junior, and it was the most impactful part of her first time attending Awakening Church.

"When I found out it was in a movie theater, I thought wait, in the Natchitoches movie theater?" Edwards said, "I was like, I have to go now."

Edwards noted the unique location served for a different feel than most churches with its openness but thought the change was a welcome one.

"I really like that about this church, and I think that a lot of NSU students would like it to," Edwards said. "There wasn't a disconnect with Pastor Steve. It was a good word that he delivered, and I feel like a lot of college students would appreciate that."

Edwards thinks that Awakening has an outreach disadvantage

compared to other churches with faith-based registered campus organizations. She only heard of the church from a friend who had already been involved with it.

"When people are looking for a church, they look for a church," Edwards said, "I feel like it can be little harder to find it on your own if someone doesn't recommend it to you."

Alexia Rubin, junior, first discovered Awakening during an event at her own church where they gave a preview of what they wanted to accomplish through their church planting.

After going to many churches, she thought to give Awakening a try and fell in love with it.

When realizing the church was held in a movie theater, she was ecstatic.

"Oh my gosh, I was like comfy seats, yes!" Rubin said. "My one thing was I hoped I wouldn't fall asleep."

Having come from a large church which was originally a church plant and having helped to build it up, Rubin regarded that Awakening gave her a taste of home.

She thinks that the church is taking steps towards growing its attendance, particularly in working on becoming a registered organization on campus.

"I feel like the place we're at, where God has us, we're kind of moving into where we're going to have more students," Rubin said. "It's a very intimate, very family-oriented and relationship-building church."



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic! College is going good so far, but I'm busy all the time. I'm doing schoolwork, studying and getting involved on campus. How do I manage my personal relationships while staying on top of my schoolwork and involvement?

**A** While getting involved and making good grades are important, so is maintaining relationships with your friends, family and significant other.

- **Schedule time in your week to talk.** Whether it's grabbing a quick coffee, talking over the phone or talking over FaceTime or Skype, make time weekly to check in to the people you care about.

- **Respect everyone.** People may not be available at your beck and call to hang out and talk. Everyone's busy, and this doesn't mean they don't care. Treat people the way you want to be treated. This is why scheduling time for each other is important!

- **Try to make visits home.** Family can get on your nerves, but I promise they miss you and would love to see you more often. If you have the chance to take a weekend trip home, do it. They'll probably help you with laundry and prepare a home-cooked meal.

- **Make date nights a thing.** If you have a significant other, have a date night every two weeks. It'll help keep the spark alive and have planned quality time together. It's also a great way to destress from school.

Relationships are an important part of life, so make sure to nurture them in a healthy way. Every relationship is like a plant, and they all need to be watered.

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# Stage is closing, what now?

**Mekayla Jenkins**

*Photo Editor*

Oh no, Stage in Natchitoches is closing!

Now where are we going to find semi-formal clothes and cute, casual outfits for a night out?

Where will we get last-minute slacks and dresses before an interview?

Where will we find appropriate “parent approved” outfits to wear when our family drops in for a surprise check in?

Although shopping online is a good alternative, some may argue that it’s easier to physically search and try on an outfit in store when you rip your pants a day before a big event.

Stage will surely be missed, but there are many other stores that can offer the same affordable styles for students and professionals alike.

Factory Connection is a great store to shop at for cute, casual clothes that fit for the season and name brand clothes.

Thrift shopping is always a good way to go and find cool clothes for cheap, especially for broke college students. Goodwill is a great thrifting place. You’ll barely find two things alike, so it’s good to shop at if you want to be the only person in the room with a vintage sweater from the 90s.

Walmart has honestly stepped its clothing game up in every category. Look there for athletic clothes, professional pieces and parent-approved outfits for family day.

Ladies, Rainbow, Lux and other boutiques are great places to shop. Rainbow is the spot for cute outfits for a night out that are affordable and good quality.

Guys don’t worry. I didn’t forget about you. Right next door is Hibbett Sports which has up-to-date sneakers and fashionable outfits for boys’ night.

Sometimes you don’t have to travel at all. There are many local clothing designers around Natchitoches and even on campus that you could support.

Stage may be closing, but the opportunity to explore your own personal style has only begun.

## “Fall weather? I don’t know her.” - Louisiana

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

Wait, it’s actually cold outside?

I never saw that coming, and no matter how much my Pinterest board was preparing, I’m not ready for the real chill to come in.

Am I happy about it? Yeah, I love the cold. Is my closet okay with it? No because I only wear what I need to survive in Louisiana but make it fashion.

I was born and raised in Metairie. I’ve only seen snow maybe four times in my life, and a breezy 60 degrees on a cloudy day feels like negative 10 degrees to me. So now let’s learn together how to wear winter clothes without looking like a marshmallow.

Layers! No, I’m not talking about hair. Focus on layering an outfit. Start small with stockings or leggings. Once you get the basic layers out of the way, pile on the clothes.

We all know how air conditioning works here at NSU, so be prepared to want to stay snuggled in those layers if you’re in the student union but want to tear them off the moment you step into CAPA. I find

most buildings to be freezing, so I welcome those extra outer layers.

No matter what, be prepared for the weather to fluctuate in every direction. Louisiana weather is strange like that.

So you have your first layer, stockings. I love to pair it with ripped jeans or a short dress so they can either be the sole focus of the outfit or peek through nicely and help keep me warm.

With the short dress option, I like to throw over an oversized jacket with it if my dress is too tight or scandalous to dress it down. If you’re not a dress person, a skirt and sweater combination can also look great together.

Ripped jeans and stockings can come across as super edgy. Try wearing a patterned stocking underneath blue ripped jeans and add a cropped sweater to make it cozy.

If that’s not cozy enough, introduce your edgy outfit to a jacket. Personally, I love leather jackets, but big denim or corduroy jackets also have my heart.

Boots are always my go-to for fall, but I also love pairing socks and heels. Shoes complete my cozy

layered look.

No matter what you wear to be cozy, take time to enjoy this weather because it probably won’t stay for long!



**Mary Gaffney in her fall weather clothing.** Photo provided by Mary Gaffney.

## Faculty feature: Kelly Krouse - the real NSU mom

**Thomas Celles**

*Reporter*

Kelly Krouse has worked for the Northwestern State Alumni Association since 2002 and comes to work every morning hoping she can make an impact on someone’s life. As the Associate Director for Advancement, she handles many of the administrative tasks for the NSU Foundation and helps manage student workers.

But her favorite aspect of her job is coordinating scholarships. Her main goal is to help take the stress off students that financial difficulty can bring.

“We work with over 700 or 800 privately funded scholarships for students that meet certain criteria, like someone from business or biology, or even where they’re from,” Krouse said.

She compares scholarship applications and tries to match them up the best she can.

“All of our scholarships are need-based, so it really goes towards helping the students who need that extra push to graduate,” she said.

Krouse loves seeing the look of relief on a student’s face when they realize they’ve got the help they need. Helping students is her biggest motivation and is what makes her so passionate about her

job.

“We have a lot of students who come see us who want to come back to school, but their balance is too high, she said. “They need to get it below a certain amount to be able to register.”

Krouse is an alumna of NSU and a Natchitoches native. Her original goal was to be a teacher, but she quickly realized it wasn’t for her.

A job opened up as a secretary at the alumni center in 2002, and she quickly fell in love with working with students. She homed in on the scholarship coordinator position almost immediately.

Rowdy Burleson, senior, said Krouse may only be the mom to her actual children, but he feels like she’s also every student’s NSU mom.

Krouse’s biggest realization about her job came when her youngest child went away to college. She hoped that there was someone there who they would be able to go to if they needed help and take care of him just like she would.

“As a mom, I just always want to know that there is someone to take care of my child if I couldn’t be there, so I want other moms to feel safe in the fact that there is someone here who can make a difference in their child’s life,” she

said.

In her spare time away from the office, Krouse is still helping others. She is very involved in her church and leads a ladies’ bible study that meets at Cane River Brewery.

Krouse also teaches a Sunday school class and works part-time planning events for her oldest child who owns the brewery. She also really enjoys putting on events at NSU and Cane River Brewery.

Planning all types of events is one of her passions, but she has a few that she loves doing.

“My favorite event is the Scholarship Banquet every spring,” she said. “The largest joy that I have is seeing those students that we help able to sit down with their donor and then able to meet the child that they helped, keeping them in college and making a huge difference.”

Motivating herself to come to work is pretty simple when it comes down to it. She shows up every morning knowing she’ll be working hard for her students.

“I want to make sure that can students focus on what they should be: getting their degree,” Krouse said. “They shouldn’t have to wonder how they’re going to manage to pay for college. I just want them to be given the chance to succeed.”



# Editorial

## Everyone deserves respect regardless of their beliefs



Photo courtesy of flickr.com.

Religion, just like art, is a form of expression. Religion plays a core role in who we are growing up and who we will become in the future.

College students need religion, or they at least need something to believe in. The Editorial Board is respectful of the different religions our staff brings to the table and is always open to have students share whatever they believe in.

The Current Sauce has never judged a student based on their

race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identification. We respect all because we see every individual as a human being first, for we are all the same.

Religion is not just something to believe in. It is a way of life. We know that not everyone believes in a higher power.

Most of our Editorial Board are Catholics and Baptists, so we believe that there is someone helping us achieve our goals from above. It

helps most of us get through the day knowing that there is someone always there for us.

Different religious organizations are an essential part of what brings campuses to life. Campus should be a safe place to practice whatever students believe, and that is happening here at NSU. When students feel free and secure, the spirit, love and unity they bring to campus is second to none.

Being respectful of a person's

religion, no matter who or what they believe in doesn't make you an exceptional human being. We should already be respectful to everyone because everyone is human.

There are people in this world dying for what they believe in. The Editorial Board is grateful that we get to experience different religions in a safe setting with students and staff that are welcoming to everything and everyone.

### Catholic Perspective

**LiZhang Matuschka**

*Catholic Student Organization*

*President*

*NSU Student*

I love how in the Catholic faith we are all a big family. We have the saints that pray for us, and they are great examples of what holiness looks like. God has angels that watch over us and protect us from evil.

The Blessed Mother, Mary, is also fighting the spiritual battle and pointing all souls toward her son, Jesus. All the angels and saints reveal to us the Lord's love and mercy that shines on us every day.

Not only are they an inspiration to strive for holiness, they remind me of the power of the sacraments, especially Holy Communion.

I love how we can intimately encounter the Lord every day in Holy Communion. The daily encounter with the Lord's grace helps me get through tough seasons of life.

Even if I may not feel the Lord's presence, I know He is always pouring out His grace and mercy on me. I know that He is walking with me throughout my journey of life.

The graces I have received from God have helped me grow closer to holiness. I find myself more patient, loving and gentle towards others.

I have also found myself filled with more joy than I have before in my life now that I am much more serious with my faith. Most importantly, I have learned from the saints and through scripture that suffering is one of the greatest graces.

It purifies my soul and allows me to be more vulnerable with the Lord and others. Reading about the saints and receiving the Sacraments has brought me into deeper relationship with God.

### Muslim Perspective

**Maina Ibn Mohammed**

*Business Manager*

I am a Muslim.

Every day before the sunrise I get up, hit the snooze button and wash my face three times. Then, I wash my hands, my head and my feet. This is called the Wudu.

Wudu is the ritual performed before a prayer session. I must be clean and wear good clothes before I present myself before God. I do this ritual five times throughout the day for I am required to pray five times a day.

I face the Qiblah to pray. According to Huda, a religious author, wherever we are in the world, we are instructed to face Makka, Mecca, in modern-day Saudi Arabia. More technically, we are to face the Ka'aba, the sacred cubic monument that is found in Makka.

I cannot eat any pork or product made from pork. I cannot

consume alcohol. Actions such as cursing, fornication, murder and disrespecting your parents are completely condemned and prohibited.

As a daily routine, I keep a smile on my face because smiling is a form of charity in my religion. The prophet Muhammad said, "Charity is prescribed for each descendant of Adam every day the sun rises."

He was then asked, "From what do we give charity every day?"

His response was, "The doors of goodness are many. Enjoining good, forbidding evil, removing harm from the road, listening to the deaf, leading the blind, guiding one to the object of his need, hurrying with the strength of one's legs to one in sorrow who is asking for help and supporting the feeble with the strength of one's arms - all of these are charity prescribed for you."

The best part of all this is not only am I required to help people, for 30 days once a year during Ramadan I refrain from eating and drinking from dawn to sunset. The fast is intended to bring me closer to God and to remind me of the suffering of those less fortunate.

### Baptist Perspective

**Patricia Reed**

*Baptist Collegiate Ministry President*  
*NSU Student*

*Religion.*

When I used to hear or see this word, I thought the wrath of God, you do good deeds and you go to

heaven and if you do bad deeds then you go to hell.

This was my viewpoint on religion for about half of my life. It wasn't until I came to college that I fully understood why God sent Jesus to die on the cross for me.

It wasn't just to say that I was wrong and that I am going to hell for all the things that I have done. It was deeper than that.

John 15:13 reads, "There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends." He died and took the punishment of my sins to have a relationship with me.

When He died, He did not leave me alone. He left a gift inside of me - the Holy Spirit.

John 15:26 reads, "But I will send you the Advocate - the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me."

Once I realized this, my life started to change. I began to walk differently, talk differently and think differently.

Yes, life happens, and things do not always go smoothly. It is easier to go through trials and tribulations when I know that the Holy Spirit lives inside of me.

Christianity is not just a religion. It is a relationship with Christ.

His story has become the blueprint of my life and has encouraged me to love others the same. I believe in Jesus Christ because He did more than just impact my life. His story and act of love left an imprint on my heart.



# NSYou

## What's been your favorite part about being a part of Homecoming Honor Court?



"My favorite part about homecoming was the game! It was phenomenal to see our demon alumni! I also enjoyed representing the students as Homecoming King!"

**Jacob Ellis**  
Homecoming King  
Senior

"My favorite part of Homecoming was by far the Honor Court Lip Sync. Since the moment we were elected as court members, we had the chance to bond and make strong connections with one another because we all had one thing in common, which is our never-ending love for NSU."

**Tori Spraggins**  
Homecoming Honor Court  
Junior



"My favorite part about being on Homecoming [Honor Court] was being able to represent this outstanding university while being surrounded by my family and friends. I have loved getting to share with them why I love NSU so much."

**Kristen Prejean**  
Homecoming Queen  
Junior

"The best part about homecoming is getting to show my family everything I love about Northwestern and why this place means so much to me."

**Zack Breaux**  
Homecoming Honor Court  
Senior



"My favorite part about homecoming is immersing in all of the unique traditions Northwestern State has during homecoming and truly letting my Demon pride show!"

**Shelby Sullivan**  
Miss NSU  
Senior

"By far my favorite part was having the best seats in the house for lip sync. It's always been my favorite part of homecoming week."

**Nicholas Hopkins**  
Homecoming Honor Court  
Junior





# Athlete of the Week: Dustin Burns



Senior offensive lineman Dustin Burns has been a consistent backbone to the Demons offensive line in his four years on the team. Photo by Chris Reich.

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

Senior offensive lineman Dustin Burns has been a consistent backbone to the Demons offensive line in his four years on the team. Raised in Beaumont, Texas, the West Brook High School graduate was a standout in the 6A class during his time as a Bruin Bear. He was all-district as a senior and second-team all-district as a long snapper, as well as a two-time wrestling district champion. Off the field, he was a member of the National Honor Society and the all-state academic team in Class 6A.

Graduating in 2015, he redshirted his academic freshman year while making the Southland Conference Commissioners Fall Honor Roll, which he has done every year as a Demon. Appearing in eight games his 2016 season and making four starts in 2017 as tackle and center, he began posting high percentage grades in knockdowns, which are defined as any block in which the defender ends up on the ground due to force, per snap towards the end of his sophomore season. In 2018, the honorable mention All-Louisiana athlete appeared in 10 games, starting seven of them at right tackle. He led the team in

knockdowns for five weeks with a season-high 23 at Southeastern Louisiana. This season, he tied the team lead with 13 knockdowns at Houston Baptist on Sept. 21. He also delivered a team-leading 11 knockdowns at FBS No. 4, now No. 2, LSU, grading at 88 percent. Currently pursuing a master's degree in sports administration, Burns holds a bachelor's degree in Biology. He hopes to enter physical therapy school and aspires to be an athletic director. His life's ambition is to help younger people achieve what they don't think is possible.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Football

10/26/19 4 p.m.  
@San Antonio, Texas  
vs. Incarnate Word

### Soccer

10/25/19 4 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, Louisiana  
vs. Nicholls

10/20/19 1 p.m.  
@Hammond, Louisiana  
vs. Southeastern

### Volleyball

10/24/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Abilene Christian

10/26/19 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Stephen F. Austin



## Editorial Board

Samantha Clark  
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Viewpoints Editor  
Brianna Fife  
Visual Editor

Anson Ballow  
Sports Editor  
Mekayla Jenkins  
Photo Editor

## Results of last week's schedule

### Football

10/19/19 6 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs Central Arkansas  
L 30-31

### Volleyball

10/19/19 11 a.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. McNeese  
W 3-1

### Soccer

10/18/19 7 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Soccer Complex  
vs. Texas A&M - Corpus Christi  
L 0-1  
10/20/19 1 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Soccer Complex  
vs. Houston Baptist  
W 3-1



# Demon football falls short of getting their first season win



The Demons started the game on offense and didn't hesitate to put the ball into the end zone. Photo by Gary Hardamon.

**Albert Hewitt**  
Contributing Writer

The Demons returned to Turpin Stadium Saturday to take on the University of Central Arkansas. The Bears stepped into an environment that most teams fear as many Demon fans filled the seats for the annual homecoming game.

The Demons started the game on offense and didn't hesitate to put the ball into the end zone. The Demons put together a 12-play, 73-yard drive that ended in a two-yard rushing score from running back Jared West.

The Bears returned the ensuing kickoff for 24 yards. On the second play of their drive, Demon

defensive back Frederick Lee Jr. intercepted the ball.

The Demons received the ball on their own 43-yard line. On the third play of the drive, quarterback Shelton Eppler found wide-open wide receiver Gavin Landry for a 54-yard touchdown.

This touchdown connection is the longest play from scrimmage for the Demons this season.

The Demons gained a 14-0 lead.

The Bears then scored their first touchdown on a 14-yard rush from running back Carlos Blackman.

At the end of the first quarter, Demon linebacker Ja'Quay Pough forced a fumble, the second Demon turnover of the game.

On the ensuing drive for the Demons, Eppler found West again for a 12-yard receiving touchdown. This put the Demons up 21-7.

The Bears responded with a seven-play, 70-yard drive. The drive resulted in a two-yard receiving touchdown from tight end Joshua Nix.

Before the half the Demons kicked a field goal, putting them up 24-14. The Bears scored three points on their first drive of the second half. On the ensuing kickoff, the Bears were able to recover their onside kick attempt.

The Bears then put together a five-play, 43-yard drive that resulted in a five-yard touchdown from

Blackman. In a few possessions, the Bears managed to tie the game 24-24.

Late in the third quarter, the Bears found end zone once more, putting them up 31-24.

After the Demons were able to play solid defense, Eppler found wide receiver Akile Davis for a nine-yard touchdown reception.

The Demons elected to go for the two-point conversion but came up just shy of being able to convert.

The Demons lost 31-30.

The Demons continue conference play this Saturday against the University of Incarnate Word. Kickoff is at 6 p.m. in San Antonio, Texas.

## Athletic scholarships allotted by discretion of a sport's head coach

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

NSU Athletics fields 14 sports with over 400 student athletes from all corners of the United States and around the world. In order to ease the financial burden on the families of student athletes, the athletic department allots funding to aid the cost of room and board. Athletic scholarships are a major recruitment and retainment tool, so their funding is an integral part of the budget.

"Scholarships within the athletic department budget are funded from

an overall scholarship budget," Athletic Director Greg Burke said. "For the 2019-20 year, it is anticipated that the NSU scholarship budget will be \$3,829,068."

The athletic department itself generates revenue and is allotted funding from several different sources: student self-assessed athletic fees, game guarantees, NCAA distribution, ticket sales that includes game day parking, licensing revenue & sponsorships, the overall university budget and the Demons Unlimited Foundation. The yearly scholarship budget is derived from

these sources.

"There is not a formula for the amount of funding provided for each sport," Burke said. "Funding is provided by a combination of historical allocation plus adjustments made per needs and as funds are available."

NCAA guidelines dictate a certain number of scholarships that can be provided by an institution to specific sports, and this number varies by sport. Coaches for each of the 14 sports at NSU can offer the full allotment of scholarships stipulated by NSU's guidelines.

However, scholarships are provided at the sole discretion of the head coach for each of the respective sports.

"If every NSU sport awarded the maximum number of scholarships, that total would be 179, and the athletic department has historically awarded approximately 168-170 of the 179 scholarships," Burke said. "Some scholarship recipients are incoming freshman or transfers, and others are returning student athletes whose scholarship for the ensuing year is determined at the discretion of the coach."





## NSU fraternity under investigation for hazing allegations



**Members of the Sigma Nu at the homecoming lipsync 2018.** Photo by Mekayla Jenkins.

**Samantha Clark**  
Editor in chief

NSU's chapter of Sigma Nu fraternity is under investigation for hazing allegations. "It has been under investigation by university police since Sept. 26, and we are awaiting their report," Director of Greek Life Shayne Creppel said.

University President Dr. Chris Maggio confirmed the investigation.

A spokesperson for the national Sigma Nu organization said it would issue a statement, but The Current Sauce did not receive one by deadline.

"We're following our procedures and policies and are currently

waiting for university police to wrap up with the report," Dean of Students Frances Conine said.

"We've done everything that the new law tells us we have to do. The new Max Gruver Law really raises the bar of how universities in Louisiana handle hazing cases."

In 2018, the Louisiana state legislature enacted the Max Gruver Law, which redefined hazing, strengthened the penalties and clarified who can be held responsible.

Current Sauce Sports Editor Anson Ballow is a member of Sigma Nu fraternity.

## Classic on the Cane marching contest returns to NSU



**Members of the Spirit of Northwestern have been practicing for two hours, three days a week in preparation for their performance.** Photo by Mekayla Jenkins.

**Madelyn Dupont**  
Marketing Director

Thirty-three high school marching bands and the largest Spirit of Northwestern band in history will march together for the 31st Classic on the Cane Marching Contest this Saturday.

Louisiana and Texas high school bands will be performing their halftime shows in front of six judges. The Spirit of Northwestern will perform for over 3,000 students at the end of the competition with an award ceremony as the finale.

Jeffrey Mathews, director of bands, said Classic on the Cane is a great event for people who enjoy marching bands and the spirit of competition. He also said it is a great recruitment opportunity for Northwestern State University.

"If I ask the members of the Spirit of Northwestern if they attended our marching contest during their high school years, over 80 percent will raise their hands," Mathews said. "The impact that these students have on campus through their participation in band

and their own recruiting efforts is immeasurable."

Members of the Spirit of Northwestern have been practicing for two hours, three days a week in preparation for their performance.

Emily Landers, junior Spirit of Northwestern member, said she is excited to perform in Classic on the Cane for the third time. "This is the performance that we work towards all season, so I'm excited to finally see all our hard work pay off and amaze the high school students" Landers said.

Kamryn Johnson, freshman Spirit of Northwestern member, has never attended or performed at Classic on the Cane, but other band members' stories have set her expectations high.

"We've added a lot of cool things to the show, and I am excited to see some good bands," said Johnson.

Classic on the Cane is Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 7:15 p.m. in Turpin Stadium. Admission is \$5, and the concession stand is open all day. Spirit of Northwestern fans should be in the stands by 6:30 p.m. to see their performance.



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### Quote of the Week

*"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment, until it becomes a memory."*

**Dr. Seuss**

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**6 Viewpoints:** The color of our skin is not your costume

**8 Sports:** Demons win big in overtime



# Stop the presses! J-Day is now JaM Day 2019



## Leah Jackson

*Director of Public Information and Media Relations*

Natchitoches, La – Louisiana's future journalism and media professionals will find a new online competition and a new name when they attend Journalism and Media Day at Northwestern State University this year.

The yearly half-day event, sponsored by the Department of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts, attracts hundreds of high school students from three parishes to NSU to compete in writing, reporting and speaking events.

The rebranding of the event, reflected in the updated Journalism and Media Day or JaM Day name, gives the event a broader, more relevant media focus. Professional media have changed so much the past few years, a name change seemed needed, Dr. Brian Gabriel, Interim Head of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts, said.

JaM Day is designed to encourage, inform and excite high school students about careers in journalism and professional communications. "I hope students leave feeling inspired and with a better understanding of their future goals in the communications industry," said Emily Zering, this year's JaM Day coordinator.

New this year is a Twitter competition, challenging competitors to send out the best and most informative tweets, Zering said. It joins returning competitions like media writing and on-air announcing along with expert panel sessions where high school students hear from a diverse range of communications professionals.

Last year, J-Day brought 238 high school students to NSU, and organizers hope to beat that number this year. JaM Day is Nov. 1, from 8 a.m. – noon, at the Friedman Student Union Ballroom.

For more information visit [www.nsulajday.com](http://www.nsulajday.com).

## Basketball preview



### Albert Hewitt

*Contributing writer*

Football season is beginning to wind down, which means that the return of basketball is near.

The Demons are prepared to take on the new season.

The Lady Demons finished the 2018-19 season with a record of 11-18.

The Lady Demons fought through many injuries throughout the year. Jocelyn Scott, a leading scorer for the Lady Demons the year prior, missed most of the season with a foot injury.

The Lady Demons head into the 2019-20 season with high hopes of turning things around. The Lady Demons have a few additions to the roster that will help them do so.

The Lady Demons acquired Leilani Moncrease, a 6'1 transfer from Diablo Valley, California, during the offseason. The sophomore guard averaged a double-double in her final season at Diablo Valley.

The Lady Demons will also welcome Jocelyn Scott back to the starting lineup as she returns from injury.

NSU's men's basketball team is also looking to start the season off strong. The men's basketball team returns many veterans such as C.J. Jones, Brian White and LaTerrance Reed.

Brian White, who missed several games in the 2018-19 season, looks to start the season strong after being sidelined due to injury.

"Brian White reminds me of Zeek Woodley a few years back when he returned from his injury," head coach Mike McConathy said in a recent press release. "I think he will do great things."

"We also have a lot of talent that we are working with this season that could help us in a major way in the correct system," McConathy said.

The Demons are looking forward to having a healthy roster this season.

After winning their final game of the 2018-19 season, the Demons look to pick up right where they left off.

Demon basketball returns to Prather Coliseum on Tuesday. The Demons play against Centenary College of Louisiana, kicking off the doubleheader at 5:30 p.m. The Lady Demons play LeTourneau University immediately after

## Athlete of the week: Isabella Hudson

### Anson Ballow

*Sports editor*

Junior cross country stand-out Isabella Hudson has come a long way since her freshman year.

Smashing personal records on and off the course, Hudson seems to have found the perfect balance between athletic and academic commitment. Now under the wings of a new head coach, Hudson leads a team of mostly freshman this year through the strenuous training regimen of a year-round distance runner.

From Waco, Texas, the China Spring High School graduate was a stand-out athlete in Class 4A during her time before NSU. A two-time all-district first-team and all-region second-team selection as a student-athlete, Hudson was all-district in the 800m run as well as a regional and state cross country qualifier throughout high school. Off the course, she was a member of the National Honor Society, a National Merit Scholar and recipient of the US Marine Corps Scholastic Excellence Award as a high school scholar.

In her first year as a Lady Demon, she posted a top-15 finish at the 2017 LA Tech Mook Triple-Doubles and placed 79th at the Southland Conference Championships. After posting impressive times during outdoor track, including a second place finish at the Leon Johnson NSU Invitational, she came into her sophomore season full of momentum.

Starting off her season with a third-place finish at the 2018 LA Tech Mook Invitational, she went on to place 34th at the 2018 Southland Conference Championships, 35 positions ahead of her performance a year previously. Qualifying for NCAA D1 South Central Regionals, she finished 117th with a personal record of 23:58.3 over a 6 kilometer course.

"My favorite part about running at NSU is the family feeling," Hudson said in an interview with NSU athletics. "From practicing to competing, just the fact that we're all struggling together makes it worth it."

A biology major with a concentration in pre-med, Hudson hopes to graduate and pass the MCAT in order to pursue a career in the medical field.



# Demons? No, a ghost!

## The legend of NSU's ghost, Isabella

**Kathleen Hilliard**

*Reporter*

Whether you're an incoming freshman or a junior here at NSU, you're sure to have heard about NSU's resident ghost, Isabella.

Legend has it that Isabella, also known as the Ghost of Normal Hill, was a beautiful, young French girl who was very popular with the male suitors. Among her many suitors was one whom she loved above all others, but unfortunately, he was killed in a questionable duel of honor.

The grief-stricken young lady is told to have grown pale and withdrawn as she mourned the death of her lover. Seeking solitude, she'd entered the convent and remained there to become a nun.

The years passed and the sorrowing nun remained secluded. At night she would walk beneath the tall trees that had always grown on Normal Hill. Some said she was crazy while others said that she went there to meet the spirit of her lover.

When the wind would rustle the leaves gently, people would say, "The Little Nun sighs for her lover." When the wind blew fiercely they said, "The Little Nun has quarreled with her lover."

The day following a violent storm, the young nun Isabella was found dead in her room with a knife beside her and a bloody handprint on the wall where she had grasped as she fell.

When the convent building was torn down tradition says that the ghost of Isabella moved to East Hall and then to various other buildings until their destruction. Tradition also has it that the ghost always inhabits the oldest building on campus, which as of now is the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training.

"One of the best parts of October is Chasing Isabella," Student Coordinator Zachary Breaux said. "A small ghost is hidden somewhere on campus. Each day a clue is released giving hints on her location. There is a cash prize for the person that finds her. It's a really fun and exciting event and gives you the opportunity to apply your knowledge of the campus and its history in order to find this small little hidden ghost."

Faculty member Leslie Gruesbeck is the last living coed alive to have moved the ghost.

"Well, it feels great to have been a part of the tradition," Gruesbeck said. "It was pretty amazingly fun to have done it."

According to Gruesbeck, KNWD, NSU's radio station, and the Student Government Association worked together to move Isabella one last time from the remains of Caldwell Hall to the "old women's gym," now the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, on Oct. 31, 1982.

KNWD's General Manager was Eric Maron and he had discovered the tradition "moving" the ghost from her former home to the next

oldest building on campus and thought that since she had been living in Caldwell, a move should be organized to walk the ghost from Caldwell's site to the women's gym.

"Lots of folks promoted and worked on the move," Gruesbeck said. "It was a big group effort. Part of what I did was to portray Isabella. To have a coed "be" Isabella and physically walk with a procession to the ghost's new home is part of the tradition."

Gruesbeck got to contact older alumnae who had been here in the '20s and '30s to collect oral histories about when their classes had moved Isabella. She also remembers the large number of people that came to make up the procession, the effects used to hype up Isabella's appearance and much more.

"I remember a beer being poured down my back by someone in the procession," Gruesbeck said. "I'm sure that was accidental. Nobody would waste a beer like that on purpose, right?"

Students around campus shared their encounters with Isabella on the student concerns page.

"One night when I was at work, my fiancé was in my dorm at columns alone, it was over I think Christmas break," student Breanna Rice said. "And he texted me asking if I was home because he heard doors opening and closing and footsteps. I came home at around midnight, and I checked all the doors. They were all locked. He swears he heard someone in the dorm, but he was the only one

there."

"One afternoon, I had just come home from class, and I was sitting on the bed doing a little cleaning," student KiAmber Eleise Davis said. "I happen to look up and my TV was coming on by itself, and I turned it off. It came on again. The next day, my TV turned on and off by itself as well."

"This is a true story, and my friends and I laughed about all the time," student Amber Slater said. "But my ex bf got into his dorm at Varnado late one night, and his roommate Richard started talking to my ex and to me. I wasn't in the room, so my ex asked who was Richard talking too. Richard was like "isn't Amber right there?" My ex bf said no. But if you ask Richard, he swears he saw a dark brown-haired girl holding my ex bf's hand."

"That brings a whole new meaning to the term ghosted," Gruesbeck replied.

Other students such as Germany Jones were less fascinated and sounded more concerned with Isabella's presence.

"Spirit?" Jones said. "Oh no."

Gruesbecks thinks the spirit is Isabella is "a loving one" and wants students to know that.

"The coeds of the past processions, and then our efforts in 1982 as well, made her feel at home and loved," Gruesbeck said. "The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training has a sweet plaque with her "handprint" inside the building. You can stop by and rub it for good luck. I think that's a great "new" tradition."



## How to look spooky without spooking anyone

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

All Hallows Eve is finally upon us, and I couldn't be more excited. I'm the grab your candy corn, we're going to get spooky kind of person. Halloween is my favorite time of the year.

Yes, I was emo for four years of my life, why do you ask?

Since Halloween is my favorite holiday, I like to get into the spirit of scaring people and giving away a bag of candy. Usually I buy two,

but by the time Halloween comes around, I have already eaten a bag and have experienced all the regret.

To get into the spirit, I listen my Halloween playlist and throw on an outfit that would frighten any mere mortal or maybe just make me look like a Twilight-crazed college student. Either way, I love playing with the darker looks for Halloween.

I like to focus my darker outfits around a certain color, so I pick black. It's a Halloween staple and always can make an outfit look put

together.

Try wearing an all-black outfit, using different textures to help it blend better. I love corduroy. It's a fall thing. A black top paired with corduroy jeans and lace up boots can bring different dimension to a look and help the different shades meld together.

I also love playing with overall Halloween colors: oranges, dark reds, purples and greens. Pairing orange accessories with an all-black look can elevate the look on the spooky meter.

I also love using one color as the focus of the outfit. My favorite look I did was pairing a burgundy dress with all black accessories, including a bold black lip.

Feeling and looking spooky isn't just about the clothes you wear but also your makeup. I love to get into the darker colors, packing on the black and eyeliner. With this time of year, you can even get away with wearing a dramatic pair of lashes.

It's the one time of the year you can be whatever you want, so why do it without style?



# I need more spark in my Halloween outfit please

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

When it comes to Halloween, I know that there are many people who love to just sit back and relax with black and orange clothes as they watch their favorite spooky movie. I respect that.

But let's dive deeper and go all out this year.

For those who are all about the costumes and not scared to be a little bit more adventurous this time of year, keep reading. I'm the person who has multiple costumes for Halloween.

How can I choose just one when there are so many looks I want to try and so many new people I want to be?

The one thing I strongly recommend is accessories. It's the only thing that can help elevate your outfit from regular spooky to maximum spook. It's Halloween, so go all out. Give me fake blood, witch hats and liquid latex.

Let's get scary. Can't think of anything to be but love horror movies? This Halloween, I'm ready to switch it up with pop culture. Play that to your advantage this year, even if your costume idea is a little last minute. There so many things you can do that aren't extremely lame.

Pennywise seems to be this year's favorite, especially with Tik Tok and teenage girls falling in love with Bill Harder. Nail that makeup and grab yourself a red balloon.

There are so many movie monsters to recreate for this spooky time of year!

I love sticking with the basics. I'm all about the classic Halloween costumes of ghosts, witches and ghouls. It's so easy to throw on a dress, witch hat and black lipstick to call it a day, but not this year.

I'm ready to be extra and I know just the thing for it.

My favorite look is simple to throw on but gets me in the mood to drink some potions and ride on some broomsticks. I love the witch look, which I accomplish by throwing on a dark dress and accessorizing with green accents. I can't forget the trusty witch hat. Green makeup and bam. I'm a spell-casting witch.

You can either slowly start incorporating Halloween into your outfits or just show up to class dressed as a ghost. If you're going to dress up for class, please think first and act second so that you don't alarm anyone. Don't wear something offensive. Halloween is about having fun, not pissing people off.

Stay spooky, demons.

# Ghoul of the week: Ellen Wells

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

Ellen Wells is a junior art major with a focus in studio art. She has worked at Dark Woods Haunted Attraction for four years.

"I'm a scare actor so I scare people, but every now and then I go out to the haunt and help prep for the next time the haunt opens," she said.

To Wells, the scariest part of Dark Woods is the trail, all because of the actors' dedication to scaring patrons.

Wells found out about Dark Woods on Facebook. She heard it was fun and enjoys the free meals.

Her favorite part of Halloween is the costumes.

"Scary stuff isn't seen as weird

for a time being," she said.

On Halloween night, the community can expect full power from the crew.

"The entire crew amps up the crazy, the creepy and the carnage," she said.

Wells says that Dark Woods Haunted Attraction brings entertainment to Natchitoches. Dark Woods Haunted Attraction is located at 4343 University Parkway.

Students can come and experience Dark Woods on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Saturday is the last night this haunted attraction is open this season. Ticket prices may vary. Check out [darkwoodshaut.com](http://darkwoodshaut.com) for more information.

Wells' favorite part of working at Dark Woods is "honestly, watching grown men pee themselves."



**Wells' favorite part of working at Dark Woods is "honestly, watching grown men pee themselves." Photo provided by Ellen Wells.**

# Student spotlight: Zoe Tapp

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

Zoe Tapp has two memorable moments on the field when performing to the song "You Are My Sunshine" by Johnny Cash. The first was at a high school competition, and the second was at Tiger Stadium.

Zoe is a sophomore on the Demon Heat flag team. Her flag team career began when she was a sophomore at St. Amant High School in St. Amant, Louisiana. This will mark her fifth year on a flag team.

"There's a lot of amazing moments right from the moment that you first get on the field and you perform for your first game," she said. "It's just that feeling of rush."

Some events that have occurred in her life have made the feeling of performing change, leading to two emotional performances.

Zoe's junior year of high school was hit by a flood in 2016.

The only thing that went through her mind was when she would be able to touch another flag. She wondered when she would be able to perform on the field again.

St. Amant High School has one of the largest bands in the state, and when the flood hit the school lost thousands of dollars worth of instruments.

"We lost our field, and pretty much everything," she said.

Louisiana Showcase of Marching Bands, the high school marching band championships, is held at the University of Lafayette in early

November.

"Our band directors called them and said that they wouldn't be able to perform because we didn't have the instruments, money or time," she said.

The board understood that the St. Amant band could not compete but asked if the band could still perform for an exhibition.

"It's like a half time show, but we're just performing," she said.

LSU's band director at the time contacted the high school and twisted a performance LSU had done to a mix of songs, including "You Are My Sunshine," into a show for the high school to do.

"That was one of the best feelings, being able to know that we can still perform," she said. "We still have the great support from everyone."

In eight practices, NSU's drum line, Drum Corps International, which provided color guard flags and marching band supplies, and different colleges around the nation came to help her high school perform a memorable routine in a time when they needed it the most.

When it came to performance day, she was nothing short of emotional.

"One of my favorite parts was 'You Are My Sunshine' because that is Louisiana's state song," she said. "It's personal to me because my grandmother raised me on listening to that. Every time I thought of that, I thought of my grandmother, my family and how proud I am to be from Louisiana."

The high school received two

standing ovations. The first was when they entered, and the second was at the end.

"That was one of the most amazing experiences I had ever felt," she said.

This September, NSU's football team played LSU. The Spirit of Northwestern performed on LSU's field in Tiger Stadium in Baton Rouge.

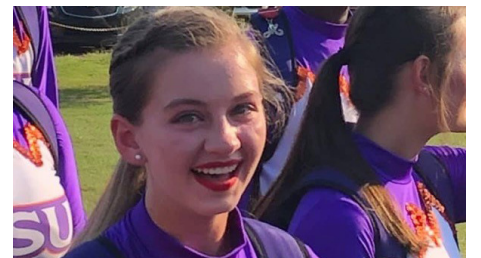
"This was already a dream for me because I had been raised as a Tiger fan," she said.

During the half time show, the Golden Band from Tigerland and the Spirit of Northwestern came together and performed to the songs "You Are My Sunshine" and "America the Beautiful."

"Being able to perform that in front of basically home where I know so many people, where my family was there being able to see me once for the first and last time they will be able to see me and where my friends at LSU are that cheered on was one of the best feelings," she said.

It was a momentous occasion for her and a personal memory that she will always cherish.

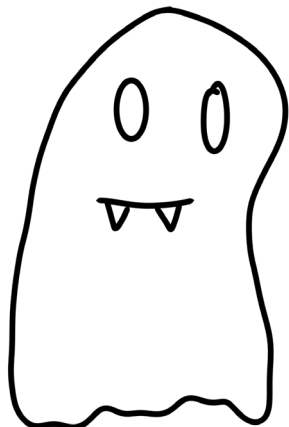
"I know that whenever 'You Are My Sunshine' comes on or whenever I'm performing that everything is alright," she said.



*Photo provided by Zoe Tapp.*



# Rougarous, voodoo queens and devilmen - oh my!



**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

With Jack-o-Lanterns lining front porches, skeletons hanging from trees and the sound of a witch's cackle floating through the chilly air, Halloween is here at last! Everyone knows the tales of Frankenstein and Dracula, but what are the spooks like for the more humid of the 50 states?

Here are some homegrown Louisiana tales of myth and horror that are sure to make you terrified to call the bayou state home.

## Beware of the Rougarou

Lurking menacingly between the swamps of southeast Louisiana from the depth of Cajun folklore is the petrifying Rougarou.

A wolf-like creature who can shift into a human originally deemed the "loup-garou," the French word for werewolf, the Rougarou serves as a menacing warning for Catholics to keep to lent and children to remain on their best behavior.

It is said that the Rougarou wanders the streets at night in human form, hoping to antagonize someone to attack it. Once humans fall for its trap, the Rougarou will reveal itself to them.

If they speak of the encounter before a year is up, humans will turn into a Rougarou themselves.

Luckily, there is a way to keep the monster at bay. To ward him off your doorstep, place 13 pennies on your stairs or windowsill.

This bayou-dwelling creature does not know a number beyond 12 and will keep counting until sunrise when he will have no choice but to retreat back down the bayou.

## St. Louis Cemetery No. 1

Marie Laveau has remained prevalent in New Orleans's culture and myths since the early 1800s, and the Voodoo Queen of New



**Lurking menacingly between the swamps of southeast Louisiana from the depth of Cajun folklore is the petrifying Rougarou.** Photo courtesy of flickr.com.

Orleans cannot be stopped by death itself. In fact, she can even grant you your greatest wish if you're brave enough to ask.

You need only to attend her final resting place, St. Louis Cemetery No. 1, and perform a very particular ritual.

One must break off a piece of brick from another tomb, immediately spin around three times, draw three Xs and knock ever so politely. The final step is to leave an offering, and then your desire will be granted.

Whether it is thought to be a fun tradition or a silly game, there are many who claim Laveau's magic has aided fatal illness and convicts on death row. When visiting, make sure to keep an eye out for the Xs which have been circled -- those

are the wishes that have come true.

## Show your horns and have a free drink

The Devil Man of Algiers is a frightening figure of Louisiana lore that was first sighted in 1938.

Described as having black horns, bright pink ears shaped like sunflowers and eyes like a chicken, the legend states he has a knack for wrecking bars and insulting women.

True to his name, The Devil Man is known for his partialness for the bars of New Orleans, frequenting a particular establishment which attracted many eager customers who wished to get a glimpse.

Eventually, the alleged real Devil Man was arrested after telling police that King Zulu, advisor of Neptune, had sent him there.



Yet, while this suspect was in custody on the night of Sept. 13, 1938, police received over two hundred called in reports that the devil incarnate was getting free drinks by showing the bartenders his horns.

## The vampire brothers of New Orleans

Wayne and John Carter exist in a strange in-between of reality and myth. The Carters were a pair of brothers who lived together in the French Quarter and had unsuspecting personalities alongside every-day jobs.

Their dark truth was only revealed when a girl escaped from their shared apartment with various deep cuts. The police instantly raided the Carters' shared apartment in which they discovered numerous dead bodies and a few tied up survivors with the same deep cuts.

The girl stated that the Carters would come home and drain and drink the blood of their victims.

While some stories allege the Carters took on half the police force, they were charged and executed.

Strangely enough, it is said that their bodies mysteriously vanished from their family's grave vault shortly after the brothers' deaths.

To this day, New Orleans residents claim they can see the Carter brothers roaming the French Quarter at night, believing that they never truly died at all.

From wolf monsters dwelling in the bayou to unsuspecting men in work boots with a taste for blood, be on the lookout for red men with sunflower ears. Count your Xs this Halloween night. In Louisiana, Dracula and Frankenstein are the least of your worries!



## NSYou

**Do you think a person of color doing black face is disrespectful?**



"Blackface is not okay due to the fact that one is depicting a culture in the way 'they see it.' It is basically the same as wearing a Native American headdress and making sounds with your mouth. It is rude and offensive.

It is bashing a culture."

**Hannah Durgin**

*Sophomore  
Biology*



"Blackface shouldn't be done at all by a person of color or non-person of color. Don't paint your face to depict a race."

**Cinnamon Player**

*Senior*

*Communications*



"Whoever chooses to do blackface, regardless of race, is depicting a false sense of humor."

**Camron Green**

*Junior*

*Psychology*



"I don't think anyone should blackface because it's offensive."

**Christina Johnson**

*Sophomore  
Nursing*

# The color of our skin is not your costume



In the 1949 issue of NSU's yearbook, the *Potpourri*, there is a picture of white students with black painted on their faces. Photo from 1949 *Potpourri*.

**Mekayla Jenkins**

*Photo Editor*

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

My features are not to be mortified for the entertainment and enjoyment of "getting a costume spot on."

It's about that time of year again. It is truly unfortunate that this issue is a reoccurring problem and will continue to be a problem if it is not addressed and discussed.

You all know what I'm talking about. Yeah, blackface.

What is blackface, you ask?

According to Webster-Merriam Dictionary, blackface is defined as "dark makeup worn, as by a performer in a minstrel show, in a caricature of the appearance of a black person."

To simplify it, blackface is when a non-person of color would paint their face black like charcoal and exaggerate the features of African-Americans for entertainment or amusement.

Blackface began in America after the infamous Civil War. White actors played characters in plays that purposely dehumanized African-Americans like "The Birth of America" in 1915.

History.com quoted David Leonard, a professor of ethnic studies at Washington State University.

"It's (Blackface) an assertion of power and control. It allows society to routinely and historically imagine African-Americans as not fully human," Leonard said.

The "Father of Minstrelsy," Thomas Dartmouth Rice, traveled

to the south and observed slaves to help him create his black stage character, Jim Crow, in 1830.

Blackface is wrong, and it is time that we hold people accountable for contributing to it. Re-elected Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau is a prime example.

A few weeks ago, an article from TIME magazine surfaced that revealed Trudeau went to an Arabian Night's themed party in dark makeup in 2001.

He apologized, but it isn't enough. He was still re-elected. What does that say about Canada and their view on people of color?

We need to stop pretending that this isn't normal. It happens in the supposedly kindest country in the world, and it happens here.

In the 1949 issue of NSU's yearbook, the *Potpourri*, there is a picture of white students with black painted on their faces. The picture was taken during the time of segregation, but black people weren't respected then. Because of this blackface trend, it seems like we are not respected now.

The character, Jim Crow, was an exaggeration of what non-people of color thought of African-Americans. They were stereotyped as being lazy, ignorant, hypersexual, loud, criminals and barbaric.

We do not fit in any of those categories.

Blackface is deeply rooted in racism and is offensive and hurtful.



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic. It's October and Halloween is approaching. I want to participate in fun Halloween activities, but I'm terrified of the thought of Halloween. How do I conquer my fears so that I can enjoy Halloween?

**A** Halloween can sometimes be scary, but there is a fun side to the holiday. Here are a few tips that should get you through October.

- **Get a group of friends together to participate in Halloween traditions.** Being alone doesn't help much when getting through the holiday. Plan activities such as pumpkin carving, and watching classic Halloween movies.

- **Participate in Halloween events on campus.** Try to find Isabella, or even watch the live performance of the Rocky Horror show on campus!

- **Have fun.** No matter what you do, have fun. It's hard to be afraid while you're having fun. Eat some candy, and enjoy Halloween.

Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# Demon Debate: Are ghosts real?

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

**CON:** The only ghost I believe in is the Holy Ghost. As a Catholic I was raised on the idea that ghosts are not real, and I still believe that to this day. Growing up I was taught that all souls went to Heaven or Hell.

In the cases of souls that were still attached to the material world or needed more prayers, they went in between to the land of Purgatory for God to decide their fate.

NewAdvent.com says that the Catholic Doctrine defines Purgatory as “a place or condition of temporal punishment for those who, departing this life in God’s grace, are, not entirely free from venial faults, or have not fully paid the satisfaction due to their transgressions.”

In Purgatory, souls can visit the living and leave a mark or sign that they are there to ask for prayers of utility.

There are many stories in the Catholic Church about saints, sisters, priests, monks and ordinary people that have been visited by souls that want or need help.

One example is the story of Eugenie von der Leyen. She kept a diary of the souls that would visit her.

Because of this belief, I know that ghosts are not real. A ghost is a thing that seems to be depicted as having evil intentions and only wants to do harm. A soul is a helpless entity trying to reclaim a sense of being whole.

A ghost and a soul are not the same thing. A soul is real, and a ghost is not.

**Brianna Fife**  
Visual Editor

**PRO:** I believe ghosts are real. I have had numerous experiences with the supernatural and being a religious woman, I believe they are around us.

There are so many things on this earth that we haven’t discovered. Who are we to say that ghosts don’t exist?

A story I have could be purely coincidental considering the song is a popular Christian song.

My great-grandfather’s health was declining rapidly.

My mom and I were about to get out of her car to go and work at the nursery in a Catholic church where we live when the song Old Rugged Cross by Alan Jackson came on.

My mom and I sat there and listened to the song before we went

in, and she told me how they would play this song all the time during worship.

The next time I heard the song was right before my great-grandfather’s funeral. My aunt, my mother and I had just parked, and Old Rugged Cross started playing. We thought it was sad because it was his favorite song.

During the funeral service, they begin playing the playlist for the funeral, and the first song that played was Old Rugged Cross. That experience has me believe for sure that my great-grandfather was communicating in some way with us.



# How about we stay away from the Pocahontas costume?

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

Halloween is my mother’s favorite holiday. She loves buying decorations for her hotel lobby, and walking into our house looks like Halloween threw up everywhere.

One of my mom’s favorite costumes that she has ever worn was when she dressed up as Pocahontas in 2011 for a Halloween party.

Did you raise an eyebrow at that sentence? I hope you did.

My mom went as “sexy” Pocahontas. She wore a short light beige skirt similar to a public-school skirt, a brown short sleeve shirt, mid-thigh brown heeled boots and a beaded headband that went around her forehead. She is a light-skinned black woman with brown hair, NOT Native American.

She didn’t know at the time, but my mom was a participant in culture appropriation.

Culture appropriation in Cambridge Dictionary is defined as “the act of taking or using things from a culture that is not your own, especially without showing that you understand or respect this

culture.”

Culture appropriation arises when imitation is based on a shallow and offensive stereotype.

An example of culture appropriation is when Kim Kardashian named her shapewear line “Kimono Solutionwear.” A kimono is a traditional Japanese garment that has been around for hundreds of years, yet her line of products had nothing to do with kimonos.

She participated in cultural appropriation by taking the word away from any cultural contexts while also ignoring Japanese tradition. She quickly changed the name when she began facing backlash.

Most people never intend to insult another culture when dressing up for Halloween. They just want to have fun.

If a little white girl wants to be Princess Jasmine or Mulan, then that is okay. All she sees is a fierce princess that she wants to be like. She doesn’t know anything else.

My mom dressing up as Pocahontas for a Halloween party didn’t hurt anybody’s feelings

because nobody knew. If she had known that it might hurt another person, she would have never worn it.

We need to be more careful when it comes to costumes derived from Native Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, etc. If you have to question whether or not you should wear something, you probably shouldn’t wear it.

To make it easier on everyone, let’s just name the basics of what you should never wear if you are not going to respect their culture.

1. Blackface. I should not have to explain that to anyone.

2. Stay away from Native American feathers or anything depicting Native Americans.

3. Box braids, dreadlocks or cornrows are a no-go.

4. Please do not wear hijabs if you are not going to respect the religion.

Let’s try not to be racist this Halloween. It is a fun holiday, so let’s keep it that way.

By the way, my mom rocked that do-it-yourself Pocahontas costume.



illustration courtesy of Needpix.com



# Demons win big in overtime

**Anson Ballow**  
Sports Editor

In their greatest team performance this season, the Demons snatched their first win in a hard-fought battle against yet another ranked team.

The Demons went 25 yards in eight plays on their last drive in overtime, scoring on a one-yard pass from quarterback Shelton Eppler to wide receiver Quan Shorts to secure the 44-41 victory against No. 20 University of Incarnate Word.

Saturday's encounter marks the fourth time this season that the Demons have gone against a ranked team.

Working through a knee injury, Shorts snagged 11 passes, his fourth double-figure catch game of the season.

"Knowing the Quan I've seen daily, if he had the opportunity to play, he was going to play," head coach Brad Laird said in an NSU press release.

"You could tell he was in pain, but he battled through it and made plays while he was hurting," Laird said. "Guys like that, guys who are playing hurt, finding a way, it makes it gratifying to see that success because of that."

This was part of a night that saw Shorts become the Demon's all-time single-season reception leader. Through eight games, Shorts has 77 receptions, surpassing former Demon Ed Eagan's 73 catches in 2014.

On the first drive of the game, NSU went 55 yards over 11 plays, delivering a three-yard touchdown

pass to Jared West. This put the Demons up 7-0 with eight minutes and 49 seconds left in the first quarter.

University of Incarnate Word responded with two consecutive successful drives, going 81 yards to close out the first quarter. After forcing the Demons to punt, they took a 10-7 lead with a career-best 46-yard field goal from Cardinal punter Carson Mohr.

A fumble on the kickoff return saw the Cardinals with ball, putting them up 17-7. The Demons responded with a 70-yard touchdown drive to make the score 17-13.

Demons kicker Daniel Justino hit a 29-yard field goal to end the half, making the score 17-16 and closing the Cardinals lead to just one point.

Two successful drives saw the Cardinals take a 31-16 lead early in the third quarter, putting the Demons in an all-too familiar situation. The Demons responded with the second-largest second-half comeback under Laird, posting 28 of the final 38 points of the game in under a quarter and a half.

"In adverse times, our guys continue to step up and make plays," Laird said in a press release.

"The little things show up in those situations. Coby McGee, maybe the biggest play of the game on the (muffed) punt. Just the hustle and the little things he did on that particular punt to be able to get the turnover, and for us to take it in and score when we're down 31-16 and absolutely nothing is going right for us. Those little things in situations like that turn out to be big things at the end of the day."

A two-yard rush to running back Staford Anderson saw the Demons score with 6:31 left in the third, and another touchdown drive with eight minutes and 27 seconds left in the game saw the Demons barely trailing 31-30.

With two minutes and 42 seconds left on the clock, University of Incarnate Word extended its lead to 38-30, where University of Incarnate Word quarterback Jon Copeland broke the program record for touchdowns in a career.

"We got it with 2:42 left," Laird said in an athletic press release.

"There was a third-and-six, a third-and-nine, a fourth-and-18, and a 2-point play," Laird said. "Those were four huge plays those guys made to put ourselves in position to go to overtime."

After a sack on Eppler, the Demons faced fourth and 18 with one minute and 40 seconds left on the clock. Eppler found Shorts on the fourth-down conversion, saving the Demons from what could have been a game-ending turnover.

Almost fumbling with less than 30 seconds on the clock, Eppler connected with redshirt receiver Tanner Ash multiple times for the touchdown and two-point conversion that sent the Demons into overtime.

This was part of a breakout game for Ash, who posted career-highs in catches, 4, and receiving yards, 58.

"The 2-point play, every Wednesday, we do red zone, one-on-ones," Laird said in an athletic press release. "That route has been to a T on Wednesdays, and it was great to see it happen Saturday in such a crucial moment."

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Football

11/2/19 4 p.m.  
@Lake Charles, Louisiana  
vs. McNeese State

### Soccer

11/1/19 6 p.m.  
@Conway, Arkansas  
vs. Central Arkansas

### Volleyball

10/31/19 6:30 p.m.  
@New Orleans,  
Louisiana  
vs. UNO

11/9/19 1 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, Louisiana  
vs. Nicholls State



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Mekayla Jenkins  
Photo Editor

## Results of last week's schedule

### Football

10/26/19 4 p.m.  
@San Antonio, Texas  
vs. Incarnate Word  
W 44-41

### Volleyball

10/24/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Abilene Christian  
W 3-0

10/26/19 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
L 1-3

### Soccer

10/25/19 3 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, Louisiana  
vs. Nicholls  
W 4-0

10/27/19 1 p.m.  
@Hammond, Louisiana  
vs. Southeastern  
W 1-0





## New sales tax funds sports park, supports NSU



Construction on the Natchitoches sports park is expected to be finished in early January of 2020 with events being scheduled for February 2020. Photo by Leanna Coy.

**Leanna Coy**  
News editor

A 1% increase in income tax has been implemented for businesses near I-49 in order to fund the new Natchitoches sports park being built on University Parkway. 40% of the revenue from the tax will be shared with Northwestern State University.

Specifically, the revenue will be going to NSU's athletic department. Greg Burke, director of athletics, said similar arrangements have been going on in other college towns. When the city decided to build the new park, the opportunity

to include the university arose.

"With athletics, we host over 150 events and functions every year," Burke said.

All of these events bring visitors not just to NSU but to Natchitoches in general.

"There are many positives that the athletic program brings to this university and this community," Burke said. "One of the biggest is economic impact."

The athletics department has to bid money to be able to host each athletic championship event at NSU. Burke said the revenue from the sales tax will not only sustain

what the athletics department is already doing but also enhance the way they are able to help drive the economic impact in Natchitoches.

Although there are currently no plans for the athletic department hold its own events in the park, Mayor Lee Posey said NSU intramurals will be using the facility.

"If it helps Northwestern State University have a better intramural facility, we had no problem with that," Posey said. "The more people using it, the better investment."

Posey said even communities smaller than Natchitoches have

seen an impact from bringing in similar sports parks. When visitors come to town to support an event, whether the event is held at NSU or the new park, they will end up supporting local businesses as well.

"These people come to town, stay in your hotels or eat in your restaurants, hopefully do a little shopping," Posey said. "The economic impact for hosting these weekend tournaments is huge."

Construction on the Natchitoches sports park is expected to be finished in early January of 2020 with events being scheduled for February 2020.



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### Quote of the Week

*"The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones."*

**Confucius**

**4 Arts & Living:** Steel Natchitoches

**6 Viewpoints:** Should cancel culture really be 'cancelled?'

**Sports:** Nicole Henry earns Defender of the Year; five players earn All-Conference



# Students and faculty compete in first-generation dodgeball tournament

**Kathleen Hilliard**  
Reporter

NSU first-generation faculty and students will dominate the courts at the WRAC Friday at 1 p.m. for the NSU first-generation dodgeball tournament, hosted by TRiO and the First Year Experience.

The event is part of a national initiative to highlight and celebrate first-generation students. The initiative attempts to encourage first-generation students to attend college. The national initiative has been ongoing for three years, but this is the first year that NSU will be participating.

Nov. 8 is the national day of recognition for the First-Generation College Celebration Initiative.

The official day was decided in recognition of the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965. The first-generation status is based on a person's parents' college degree obtainment. If neither one of a student's parents obtained their bachelor's degree, their children are considered first-generation students.

The decision for dodgeball between the First Year Experience and TRiO offices was purely based on the fun factor since the national organization doesn't dictate specifics.

"You get to choose how you want to celebrate," said Jamie Flanagan, the assistant director, advisor and instructor for TRiO, said. "They don't dictate what you do. They just want you to show some level of recognition to support the initiative. They want you to do something that is beneficial at your institution."

Psychology Instructor Brittany Blackwell Broussard is excited and ready for the tournament.

"I'm looking forward to fun and lots of laughter," Broussard said. "I'm also competitive, so I'm ready to win."

To Broussard, being a first-generation student means success.

"It means that I can leave a legacy for my future generations and be a role model for people like



Image courtesy of Public Domain Pictures.

me," Broussard said.

Darrel Doyle, senior electronic engineering tech major, is a first-generation student and participant in the dodgeball tournament.

"I want to have fun," Doyle said. "I don't know what to expect."

Doyle is happy to be a first-generation student

"You need a lot of help when you're a first-generation student, but you know it means a lot to be able to do something that other family members haven't done," Doyle said. "My mother and my father haven't done it, so it'll mean a lot when I do graduate."

The event is open and free to the public, so everyone is encouraged to go out and support their favorite team. Free t-shirts will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

"We just want to celebrate and let everyone know that first-generation faculty and students are here, and we're just like anyone else," Flanagan said. "We're trying to do great things."

Winners of the tournament will have a meal with NSU President Dr. Chris Maggio and First Lady Jennifer Maggio, who graciously accepted after being offered the opportunity to host a meal with the winning team.

On Thursday there will be a first-generation forum and panel in

the student union ballroom with a guest speaker and first-generation panel speaking from 11 a.m. to noon.

TRiO provides free academic services to qualifying students. This includes first-generation students, students from modest-income backgrounds and students with disabilities.

TRiO has academic advising, tutoring, mentoring, a health initiative, a service organization, classes, workshops, and a resource library. Everything is used to help students advocate for themselves and have the same access as the next person.

Services are free to students that are willing to invest in themselves and to come visit with their Student Support Services advisor. Flanagan said they strive to know students as both academics and as people with lives outside of school.

"We want them to know that there is someone in their corner who's supporting them and is going to help them along the way," Flanagan said. "We want to let them know they don't have to go through this alone."

TRiO's graduation rate, through their services, was 54% in the last graduation class.

Broussard wants students to utilize these resources and know they have other people who know what they're going through.

"I want other first-generation students to use the resources available to them," Broussard said. "They're not alone, and they can use their resources to remain successful. It's okay to use resources. It's not a handout."

Doyle recommends these services to eligible students since they have benefited him during his NSU career.

"I would say join TRiO," Doyle said. "They've helped me with classes. The advisors in TRiO are free, and they don't have trouble connecting. They're good people. They help you get to know people with their events."

Doyle also appreciates their other services such as their computer lab and their help with finding jobs.

## On this day in history: Nov. 6

*Courtesy of History.com*

### 1528

Spanish explorer Cabeza de Vaca lands in Texas

### 1860

Abraham Lincoln was elected president

### 1861

Jefferson Davis was elected Confederate president

### 1906

Teddy Roosevelt travels to Panama

### 1917

Bolsheviks revolt in Russia

### 1988

Renowned Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov visits United States



# Natchitoches goes Hollywood

The story of how Natchitoches became home to 'Steel Magnolias'

**Keator Poleman**

*Contributing writer*

For a short period in the spring and summer of 1988, Natchitoches served as the backdrop to the award-winning film "Steel Magnolias."

The city hosted Hollywood A-list stars and a plethora of cast and crew.

However, filming almost didn't take place in the City of Lights. A location crew scouted areas across the South in order to find the perfect setting for the fictional town of Chinquapin, the name of the town in Robert Harling's play which the film is based on.

Andy Stone, associate producer of "Steel Magnolias," went to Wilmington, South Carolina, Atlanta and New Orleans before stopping by Natchitoches, the home of Harling and inspiration for the play, according to notes in the Steel Magnolia Scrapbook.

"We owed Bobby the courtesy of at least swinging through (Natchitoches) and taking a look," Stone said in an interview for the Scrapbook.

The Louisiana Film Commission contacted Tommy Whitehead, the NSU student media coordinator at the time, and asked him to show Stone around the state.

Whitehead, Stone recalled, would drive past towns and go through non-picturesque areas of different cities on their way from Baton Rouge, where Stone was, to Natchitoches.

"If you really want to know why 'Steel Magnolias' was filmed in Natchitoches, the reason is Tom Whitehead," Stone said in the Scrapbook.

According to the Scrapbook, one thing Stone said Natchitoches needed for him to consider filming here was a sound stage.

Whitehead first took Stone to an indoor arena on NSU's campus, but it did not meet Stone's standards.

With the arena no longer an option, Whitehead took Stone to the physical education indoor gymnasium, which would end up being used for the film.

"It was night, the rain was pouring outside, and when he flipped on the lights and I looked

around, I turned to Tommy and smiled," Stone recalled according to the Scrapbook. "I knew we had our location."

After another tour of the city the following day, Stone called Herbert Ross, the film's director, to tell him Natchitoches was his pick for filming. Ross later agreed with the decision.

NSU was used in several other ways during the production's time in Natchitoches.

Olympia Dukakis, who played Clairee Belcher, took time to speak to students on behalf of her cousin, Michael Dukakis.

According to an article in the Potpourri, students worked as extras, set decorators, dressers and production assistants.

Tim Bates, then an NSU student and set decorator, said in an interview with the Potpourri that he "worked long hours, sometimes from 4 a.m. until 8 p.m., preparing a room or a house front for the next day's shot."

Although the days were long, Bates said he had the opportunity to attend some parties with "the big

names."

Some students were paid \$50 to be extras and appear in different scenes, according to the Potpourri. For example, Ray Gill and Mark Oberle, then NSU students, can be seen during the shower scene.

Although 30 years have passed, and the crew has long since left, the impact of "Steel Magnolias" on Natchitoches is still present today.

Students and residents alike still have a connection to the film.

Carly Settle, freshman, said she used to watch the film with her family multiple times.

"I was like wow, little old Natchitoches made it big for once," Settle said.

Kelli West, marketing and communications director for the Natchitoches Visitors Bureau, said visitors say they imagine meat pies and "Steel Magnolias" when they think of Natchitoches.

West said the film is a tourism boom for Natchitoches even three decades after it premiered in theaters.

"People still connect with the film," West said.



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# Let me be a turtle, please

## How to rock the versatility in turtlenecks

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

Spooky time has come and gone. Now our tiny town of Natchitoches focuses on that fat man with gifts, but I like to stay in the fall mood. I keep chugging along with the fall vibes and good times.

For me, Christmas begins once Thanksgiving is over and I'm stuffed with mac and cheese and turkey. I take a long, and I mean LONG, look into my closet to find those fall closet needs.

Turtlenecks. I need turtlenecks. I live by the laws of turtlenecks. Since turtlenecks can be worn in any fashion, those laws are limitless.

My favorite look is a turtleneck tucked into mom jeans and a nice blazer over it while tying the whole outfit together with either boots or sneakers. Turtlenecks also can be shimmed under a dress to add more layers to keep you warm during the strange five minutes of Louisiana cold weather.

Walmart actually has some really nice turtlenecks, so much

that I only buy their turtlenecks. This isn't sponsored by Wal-Mart. I just love turtlenecks.

Maybe the time will come where I find the perfect turtleneck, possibly a bodysuit. With tighter turtlenecks, it is easier to layer jackets or other sweaters on top of it.

A cropped crew-neck sweater also can look really snazzy over a turtleneck. Try matching one color from the sweater to the turtleneck and then add a jacket to match.

Turtleneck sweater dresses can be so chic when paired with tights and boots for the days that it's not too cold. I love dressing in all black and adding different textures to make different dimensions without making the different shades of black look too off-putting.

If you're not down for wearing all black now that it's turkey time, burnt oranges and browns are a staple. Brown turtlenecks paired with a white or cream sweater or scarf makes anyone look like a fall god or goddess.

Personally, turtlenecks are my favorite fall essential. No matter what you wear, they bring that nice little class to an outfit and can make any day a great day.

Now go out and buy yourself 10 turtlenecks!



**Mary Gaffney in her turtleneck outfit.** Photo provided by Mary Gaffney.

# Steel Natchitoches

## One movie filmed decades ago still impacts this town today

**Madelyn Dupont**

*Marketing Director*

Steel Magnolias' legacy still lives in Natchitoches 30 years after the film was made.

"A lot of people say that the filming of the movie here helped jumpstart the revitalization of the downtown street area," Kelli West, Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau marketing and communications director said.

Steel Magnolias was completely filmed in Natchitoches with a sound stage on NSU's campus. Fans from across the nation continue coming to Natchitoches to visit locations and enjoy the small-town charm.

One popular spot is the Steel Magnolia House where they can stay and retrace the steps of the movie characters. The Steel Magnolia House is a bed and breakfast owned by Dan and Desiree Dyess, who bought it eight years ago. Its television above the fireplace continuously plays the movie so guests can be reminded of the scenery.

"We see a lot of people now

whose daughters are named Shelby after the movie," Dan Dyess said.

Robert Harling wrote the play about his sister, Susan Harling Robinson, and his mother after Susan's death from complications with diabetes. He named his sister's character Shelby.

Dr. Susan Dollar, NSU history professor and Natchitoches native, knew the Harlings, especially Susan Harling Robinson, who was her babysitter and friend. Dollar said their families attended church together, and Dollar and Robinson were in the junior choir together.

Dollar's childhood home was across from the Steel Magnolias House, but the Harlings actually lived down the street.

Harling still owns a home outside of Natchitoches, but he and his brother, John, attend church when they visit.

"The playwright, who I call Bobby, and John still come to church when they are in town," Dollar said.

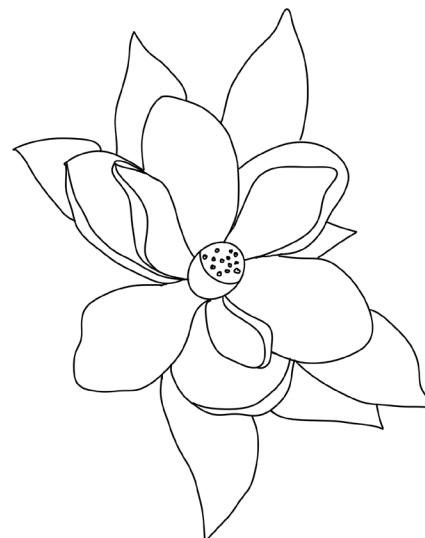
According to West, the play and the movie have left an impact on the town, especially on the

downtown area.

"Before they filmed, the downtown area was kind of rundown," West said. "There were a lot of empty buildings and things like that."

For people who knew the Harlings, the impact will remain in their hearts and memories.

"Our two families were all in the ICU waiting room together," Dollar said. "They brought us fruit, thinking about our family, and it just touched me even then."



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic. I'm new around here and wanted to know how to be safe around NSU's campus.

**A** Hey guys. While NSU prides itself on safety and being a secure campus, you can never be too safe. Here are some of Vic's pro tips for being safe around campus.

1. Always travel in groups until you are familiar with the campus.
2. Try to avoid traveling alone at night.
3. Do not swim in Chaplin's Lake.
4. Follow all speed limit and traffic signs on campus. Although NSU is small, it is never okay to speed through it.
5. Familiarize yourself with the NSU police station and its officers.
6. When cooking in dorms, make sure to follow microwave safety. If you live in University Columns, follow proper kitchen safety.
7. Do not leave trash clustered in your apartment as it could prevent you from leaving in the event of an accident.
8. Familiarize yourself with the campus infirmary and what they have to offer.
9. If you are walking, be aware of your surroundings. Make use of crosswalks, and do not have your headphones too loud.
10. Be careful of the company you keep. Surround yourself with responsible people so you don't find yourself in a dangerous situation because of your peers.

**Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!**

**@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com**



# Songs for a New World -- a musical with an underlying promise

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

"Songs for a New World," a heartfelt piece following a non-linear plotline tied together by the threads of happiness and heartbreak, debuts today in Theater West.

A theatrical sound cycle exploring crucial themes such as death, war, immigration and unplanned pregnancy, "Songs for a New World" sets itself apart with gorgeous music and a unified promise throughout its production - hope.

"You think you are in one path in life, and then something happens that changes your life

entirely," Dr. Grace Edgar, director of the production, said.

Creator Jason Robert Brown describes the show as the moment in your life where you have to make the decision to be safe or be free.

Edgar regards the amount of challenge which goes into a musical which lacks clear structure.

Artistic decisions for both the director and the many actors of "Songs for a New World" run rampant and allow for personality and heartfelt moments to shine through in the performance that Edgar hopes will leave an impression.

Edgar wants the themes

addressed in the show to "challenge the audience and hopefully spark further conversations" about these issues that are still relevant today.

Emmanuel Dunn, senior who plays Man F, recognizes the unique difficulty in a musical with no individual story and the importance of the quiet truths of the many characters he must take on as a performer.

"A lot of it has underlying meaning and messages," Dunn said. "It's really special in the sense it can reach a lot of people in today's society."

Dunn thinks that relating this message would not be the same without his fellow cast mates,

who he said are talented and responsible for aiding in making sure that "Songs for a New World" is something beautiful.

"We've been able to have these moments where it just feels like we can all come together," Dunn said. "We want to be able to share that feeling with the people who will come to see the show."

Emily Ricalde, senior who plays Woman D, accepted the challenge of playing many characters without connections to each other as a welcome one. Describing "Songs for a New World" as an intimate piece, she is ecstatic about the advantage that Theater West will hold for the production.

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# Should cancel culture really be 'cancelled?'

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

I first wanted to do this piece because I had only read about one side of the media phenomenon known as "cancel culture." But just like all things, cancel culture is not just one thing. It has two sides, just like a coin.

The cancel culture most of us know is when someone does something that we may disagree with and then post terrible things about said person, hoping that everyone starts to hate them the way you do.

This cancel culture can be a form of bullying, especially if it is over something small that can be considered "high school drama."

Cancel culture or call out culture is defined by Wikipedia.org as, "a form of boycott in which someone, usually a celebrity, who has shared a questionable or unpopular opinion, or has had behavior that is perceived to be either offensive or problematic called out on social media is "canceled;" they are completely boycotted by many of their followers or supporters, often leading to massive declines in celebrities', almost always social media personalities, careers and fanbase."

One example of this side of cancel culture is one episode of the children's show, "Arthur." In one episode, Arthur's teacher, Mr. Ratburn, is revealed to be

gay. Alabama, a nationally-known conservative state, refused to air the tv show.

Conservatives that live in the state went to Twitter defend their beliefs. Some parents argued that their children should not witness two fictional gay characters get married because that is forcing homosexuality on them at a young age.

There are way more examples, but I'll spare you some of the tweets that I saw while researching the ban.

What Alabama did was wrong. The state took away the citizens' right to free speech by using their political beliefs to block the episode, not the beliefs of the people. The government forced a belief onto the citizens while claiming to block a belief onto children. How is that okay?

Disagreeing with someone's behavior and then bullying other people into siding with us is extremely toxic. We cannot change another person's mind through intimidation. This is the behavior that one side of cancel culture can create.

There is another side of cancel culture. It still leans on the political side, but this one is more on the positive side.

This side of cancel culture is a way to take away someone's power and call out the individual for being problematic in a situation. I see it as having a sense of being

observant and aware of what's going on around me and what I see online.

Kaitlin Bennett, a white, conservative social media influencer, dressed as a Native American woman on Halloween and tweeted, "Happy Halloween, my fellow indigenous people." She also dressed as a Native American on Columbus Day and tweeted, "Very thankful for Christopher Columbus and the first European settlers who discovered America and introduced the Western hemisphere to a civilized way of life."

I shouldn't have to explain how what she did was wrong and racist on so many levels, but people on Twitter defended Native Americans and attempted to make her aware of what history is. Naturally, people tweeted on how she is "cancelled" and why.

This is positive cancel culture because people cancelled her not just because they disagreed with her, but they called her out on her racism and stood up for the defenseless.

Now, why they did it is positive, but how people handled it on Twitter is still bullying.

R Kelly is another example of a person that should be cancelled for their behavior. He ruined numerous young girls' lives. His horrible past caught up to him, and he does not deserve any kind of positive promotion. He got called

out, he was exposed and now he has to face the consequences of his actions.

Just because this is a positive side of cancel culture doesn't mean that it's all good. There is still a fine line between correcting someone with respect and then bluntly attacking a person.

Former president Barack Obama recently spoke about this example of cancel culture.

"The way of me making change is to be as judgmental as possible about other people, and that's enough" Obama said. "Like, if I tweet or hashtag about how you didn't do something right or used the wrong verb, then I can sit back and feel pretty good about myself, cause, 'Man, you see how woke I was, I called you out.'"

Obama is right. Cancel culture could be twisted into a positive way of fighting but really is a negative one. We can pretend that we are fighting for a cause that we agree or don't agree with, but really, we are using cancel culture as just another excuse to attack and bully others.

We need to respect all people, not just the people that agree with us.

We need to see the difference between individuals who say arguable opinions and the individuals that strip people of their humanity.

## The 'men are trash' mentality is problematic

Men aren't the only trash gender, and boosting this phrase won't fix the problem

**Samantha Clark**

*Editor in Chief*

Unpopular opinion, women can also be trash.

It's a hard pill to swallow when the phrase "men are trash" is constantly pushed on social media by millennials and Gen Z.

Whenever I scroll on Twitter, I'm guaranteed to see at least one tweet saying how men are trash. There are even accounts created with the sole purpose of exposing trash behavior of men.

But men aren't the only ones with trash behavior.

The "men are trash" narrative pushes down the fact that women can also do wrong.

During Kris Jenner's marriage to Robert Kardashian, she began an affair with former pro soccer player and now animator Todd Waterman. She wrote about this affair in her

autobiography "Kris Jenner... and All Things Kardashian" but used the pseudonym "Ryan" for Waterman.

After the book was released, Waterman came forward and said he was the man Jenner talked about in her autobiography.

According to People.com, Jenner said that "probably one of my biggest regrets in my life is that that marriage fell apart" in an interview with Fox News Channel's "OBJECTified."

In 2006, Rihanna released the song "Unfaithful" that tells the story of a woman cheating on a man and how it's hurting him.

"I love that song, because we always put it out there that guys cheat," Rihanna said in an interview with MTV News. "And finally someone put it in perspective: Girls cheat too."

Women are quick to find comfort in each other when one utters those famous words. It unifies women without even talking about what happened and the man's point of view.

Specific behavior from men and women are trash, but we can't target an entire gender as a way to unleash our anger and deal with it.

Instead of alienating men through social media backlash, we should invite them into the conversation about what the problems are and how we can fix them. Problems can't be solved unless everyone is involved in the discussion.

Merriam-Webster defines feminism as "the theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes; organized activity on behalf of women's rights and interests."

If the true goal of feminism is equality, we can't attack men every chance we get. It's not effective. Just as women want to be heard, we have to allow ourselves to listen to men.

Yes, men have done some awful things. Look at Tiger Woods and Tristan Thompson. They've done horrible things to their partners.

We need to remember that not all men are Tiger Woods and Tristan

Thompson. Not all men cheat, and men aren't the only ones who cheat.

I'm not trying to invalidate the wrong acts men have done and people's personal experiences. I'm not talking about the men implicated in the #MeToo movement who have committed horrendous crimes against women.

I've had my fair share of dealing with bad male behavior, but I also have good men in my life that prove to me that no, not all men are trash.


Removing the phrase "men are trash" from our vocabulary doesn't mean men shouldn't be held accountable for their actions. Accountability is important, and men and women should be both held accountable.

Opening a dialogue that addresses the problems and how to fix them is what will lead to real change.




# NSYou

Have you ever seen "Steel Magnolias?"



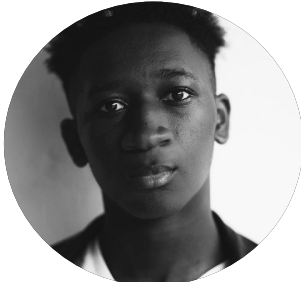
"Yeah, I've seen it! One word: Iconic! It was shot right here in Natchitoches. I think that's pretty neat."

**Alexander Robichaux**  
Sophomore  
Communications




"Never seen it but I've heard about it. I know it's based in Louisiana, and the house is here in Natchitoches. I know it's about this bond between these southern women. I know one of them dies."

**Katelyn Martin**  
Sophomore  
Nursing



"I have seen it. My mom loves it and I like it."

**John Jefferson**  
Sophomore  
Dance Major



"What's that? I don't know anything about that."

**Jermaine Collier**  
Senior  
Electrical Engineering

Editorial

# What can students do to feel safer on a campus that will ease nerves?

If campus safety is a priority, then why are students on edge? There have been a series of robberies and incidents happening on campus that students have not been informed about. That is not okay.

Students need to know what is happening on campus, especially if dangerous events have occurred more than once.

At LSU, there are police poles that students can use if they are walking around late at night all over campus. LSU students can push a button and the police will be on their way, no matter what time of day it is

They don't care what the reasons are on why the student is out late at night. They drive the student home safely.

Campus police will drive students home if they felt unsafe. All they have to do is call.

So, what can we do to feel safe on a campus that claims safety is a priority?

One thing we should do, and should have already been doing, is lock our doors. The robberies that occurred this week were due to students not locking their doors. Make sure all roommates have their keys with them.

We are adults, and though Natchitoches may seem like a safe place, it is not. There is no such thing as a completely safe city.

RAINN.org gives some tips on how to increase safety on campus and in social situations.

1. Know your resources: We should know where the police station is and have their number saved in our phones. We should also have a friend for an emergency contact that we can call if we need help getting out of an uncomfortable situation.

a. Here's a tip from one of our editors. She has campus police as AAHHH POLICE in her phone, so if something happens, they are her first contact.

2. Stay alert: When walking around at night, make sure you aren't alone. Always look around. It doesn't matter if you're walking in Kyser parking lot or on the green. You should constantly be checking for anything sketchy.

3. Make a plan: Before you leave to go anywhere, make sure you know how you are getting there and how you are getting back. If your phone dies, you can call campus police from another phone, and they can bring you home. If going out, make sure you have money on you.

Safety on campus doesn't just mean avoiding being attacked but also maintenance safety. There was a popular post on the student concerns page about a resident in UP2 with water dripping from his ceiling. It took him to post something online for housing to act.

Last week that was a housing problem, but what about the weeks before that? There have been reports of mold, bugs, plumbing problems and who knows what else.

All students, not just on-campus residents, should have been made aware of what has happened on campus. Students should know about assaults, sexual and physical, robberies, housing problems and whatever else may potentially harm a student.

A Facebook post should not have been the way we found out about something so dangerous. Students are now on edge more than we should be, and now we all have to deal with the repercussions of lack of communication and information.

Lock your front and your bedroom doors and look online for more tips to increase safety if need be.

Stay safe out there, Demons.

Important Numbers and Information:  
NSU Police:  
• Phone: (318) 357-5431  
• Location: 315 Caspari Street, Natchitoches, LA71497 (right across from LMSA gym and next to the infirmary)  
Natchitoches Police Department:  
• Phone: (318) 357-3803  
• Location: 400 Amulet St, Natchitoches, LA 71457  
Both police stations are open 24 hours a day.

## Lookin' for Louisiana

L J R N C N N P U Q  
H A F E A P O E M C  
S M O T R A L L A R  
A B G T N R A I G E  
I A U O I I B C N O  
N L M U V S A A O L  
T A B F A H Y N L E  
S Y O E L E O S I S  
C A J U N S U E A Q  
B E I G N E T S S C

Beignets

Cajuns

Bayou

Magnolias

Carnival

Parishes

NOLA

Pelicans

Creoles

Gumbo

Jambalaya

Ettoufe

Saints



# Nicole Henry earns Defender of the Year; five players earn All-Conference



Henry scored the game-winning goal in overtime in the contest. She has two goals on the season. Photo by Chris Reich.

**Jonathon Zenk**  
NSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant

NATCHITOCHES—Defender Nicole Henry leads a group of five Northwestern State players to be selected to the All-Southland Conference teams, the conference announced Monday.

Henry, a sophomore from Tomball, Texas, was chosen as a first team selection, as well as winning the honor as the conference’s Defender of the Year.

“We have had lots of recognition defensively in players of the week this year, so it is really great to cap it off with Nicole taking home the best recognition you can imagine,” co-head coach Jess Jobe said.

On the second team are Nicole’s sister Natalee Henry as well as freshman midfielder Olivia Mattsson. Defender Hallie Field and forward Jalen Donaldson were chosen for the third team.

The five players honored on the All-Conference teams is the most since 2005 when the Lady Demons had seven players selected.

We’re really happy to have these five players get some recognition by the conference with their success and what they’ve meant to the team.

Nicole Henry is second on the team in minutes with 1,682, and played at least 90 in 12 of the 19 contests. The defense has allowed opponents to shoot just 91 times in the 11 conference contests, with just 47 being on net. She is rarely beaten in 1-on-1 situations and been a force on the back line.

She is the first NSU player to be named first team since both Alex Latham and Esdeina Gonzalez in 2016.

“Nicole’s been very consistent,” Jobe said. “I am sure many coaches and SID’s remember her from last year, even, and her continued improvement and how important she is to our game and the way we play.

“Her speed and athleticism makes her tough to beat one-on-one. She has been a huge part of that back line and we’re really happy to see her get this success.”

Natalee Henry won Defensive Player of the Week after the Lady Demons defeated Lamar, handing the Cardinals their only conference loss. Natalee Henry scored the game-winning goal in overtime in the contest. She has two

goals on the season.

Mattsson, a freshman from Mariehamn, Finland, has been one of the most versatile players on the team. She can play anywhere on the field and has played at least 80 minutes in 15 of the 19 matches. She has a goal and an assist in conference play, scoring her first career goal against Nicholls on a penalty kick.

Donaldson, a sophomore from Richmond, British Columbia, leads the Lady Demons in every offensive category since in league competition. She has three goals and two assists on 38 shots, including 19 on goal.

She had a goal against Nicholls in a game where she had career-highs in shots (8) and shots on goal (6).

Field, a freshman from Frisco, Texas, won Defensive Player of the Week in a weekend in which NSU swept UL Lafayette and Texas State, and the Lady Demons allowed only one goal and Field scored the winning goal in a 1-0 win against TXST. Her intelligence and high soccer IQ has instrumental when helping lead the back line.

This is the fifth consecutive season the Lady Demons have had at least one All-Conference selection.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Football

11/9/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs. Lamar

### Soccer

11/6/19 11 a.m.  
@Conway, Arkansas  
vs. Sam Houston State

### Volleyball

11/7/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Huntsville, Texas  
vs. Sam Houston State

11/9/19 1 p.m.  
@Houston, Texas  
vs. Houston Baptist



## Editorial Board

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## Results of last week’s schedule

### Football

11/2/19 4 p.m.  
@Lake Charles,  
Louisiana  
vs Central Arkansas  
L 20-30

### Soccer

10/27/19 1 p.m.  
@Hammon, Louisiana  
vs. Southeastern Louisiana  
W 1-0

11/1/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Soccer Complex  
vs. Central Arkansas  
W 2-1

### Volleyball

10/31/19 6:30 p.m.  
@New Orleans,  
Louisiana  
vs. New Orleans  
W 3-0

11/2/19 1 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, Louisiana  
vs. Nicholls  
W 3-1





## How to get away with voting

Voting solutions for NSU students who aren't from Natchitoches



Photo courtesy of flickr.com.

**Thomas Celles**  
Reporter

Louisiana's general election day is Saturday, and for in-state students from other parishes, this can mean a few things.

For some students, it means missing class to make the drive home to fulfill their civic duties. For others, it is a day like any other but with the slight added guilt of ignoring the election in favor of convenience. However, its not too late for a third option: absentee voting.

Senior Matthew Pass says that he decided to drive home to Shreveport in order to participate in early voting.

"It was only an hour-long drive, and I go home pretty often," Pass said. "I thought it was important to make a trip up."

Other students can't make the drive home so easily. Sarahjane Ladut, senior, said she won't have the time to go home until the Thanksgiving break since she lives

over four hours away. Instead she's choosing to vote by mail through her parish's registrar of voters.

Student Body President Jacob Ellis, despite being from Athens, Louisiana, said he's been registered to vote in Natchitoches since he moved here. According to him, voting is one of the easiest ways for students to make an impact in their communities.

"Students have the power to make things happen in their communities and state," Ellis said. "It is vital that students use their voice and vote in any election."

Absentee voting in Louisiana is not uncommon, and being a student attending college outside of the parish of residence is one of the allowable reasons to register to receive an absentee ballot.

To apply, simply go to GeauxVote.com, which will redirect you to the Louisiana Secretary of State's webpage on elections. After that, simply go to the "Vote" tab on the left, click "Vote by Mail" and follow the instructions.

## A taste of Italy arrives in Natchitoches



The restaurant is currently hiring servers, bartenders and dishwashers. Anyone over the age of 18 can apply by stopping by Venezia's Garden in person or calling 214-226-9697. Photo by Leanna Coy.

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Cane River Bar and Grill's old location on Washington St. is now home to Venezia's Garden, a new Italian restaurant in town. According to owner Audrey Villarreal, the restaurant should be open by this weekend.

Venezia's Garden will be open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Villarreal said she wanted to open Venezia's Garden because there weren't any Italian restaurants in Natchitoches.

Villarreal said the restaurant will have a family atmosphere and emphasized that the food will be authentically Italian. Guests can choose from a variety of pasta, pizza, seafood and salads.

Some of the main entrees include parmigiana, piccata, milanese, marsala and cacciatore. The restaurant also offers a kid's

menu and a few dessert options.

Similar to Cane River Bar and Grill, there will be indoor and outdoor seating as well as a bar area.

Autumn Palmer, freshman, said she thinks Natchitoches will benefit from having a good Italian restaurant. Palmer said that although Cane River Bar and Grill had really good food, there are already a lot of grill houses here.

"Now with an Italian restaurant in its place, there will be a little bit more diversity on Front St. And Natchitoches," Palmer said.

Stanley Pye, junior, agreed that Natchitoches needs a good Italian restaurant.

"I'm fine with it," Pye said.

The restaurant is currently hiring servers, bartenders and dishwashers. Anyone over the age of 18 can apply by stopping by Venezia's Garden in person or calling 214-226-9697.



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### Quote of the Week

*"It always seems impossible until it's done."*

**Nelson Mandela**

**3 Arts & Living:** The gap that defines us: education in the south vs the north

**5 Viewpoints:** How I am taking ownership of who I am

**7 Sports:** Historic season ends with loss to Lamar



# Lasyone, Nungesser honored as Hospitalitarians



**Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser, left, and restaurateur Angela Lasyone, right, were the first inductees into the new Hall of Distinguished Hospitalitarians, recognized by Northwestern State University's Hospitality Management and Tourism program.**

## Leah Jackson

*Director of Public Information & Media Relations*

NATCHITOCHES – Northwestern State University's Hospitality Management and Tourism program honored Natchitoches chef/restaurateur Angela Lasyone and Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser as the first inductees into the new Hall of Distinguished Hospitalitarians Friday.

The distinction acknowledges the contributions to Natchitoches cuisine, culture and tourism of the Lasyone family and Lasyone's Meat Pie Restaurant, an institution in the state, and Nungesser's many accomplishments in promoting Louisiana as a tourist destination, particularly Natchitoches and NSU.

They were recognized during a reception hosted by NSU's HMT department.

Lasyone earned a degree in business administration at NSU in 1986 and was a member of Phi Mu Fraternity. She has spent her career working in her family's business that began as a meat market and evolved to become a landmark restaurant in north Louisiana and a catering business recognized throughout Louisiana and the U.S. Lasyone's Meat Pie Restaurant marked its 52nd year in October. Their world-famous

meat pies have drawn attention to Natchitoches through magazine and book articles, national and international newspapers features, radio and television highlights, appearing Southern Living, The New Yorker, Gourmet Magazine, Calvin Trillin's Third Helpings book, The Houston Chronicle, Chicago Tribune, The New York Times, papers from France, Italy and Spain, On the Road with Charles Kuralt and Good Morning America.

Angela Lasyone and her sister Tina have been strong supporters of NSU over the years and established two scholarships in memory of their parents, Jo Ann and James Lasyone, awarded to students seeking careers in travel/tourism and culinary arts.

Lasyone said anyone in the restaurant business has to have a passion for the work.

"The meat pie has been very, very good to us," she said. "You have to have a niche and this has been ours."

Nungesser is no stranger to NSU, having been instrumental in establishing the university's partnership with the Louisiana Seafood Board in presenting NSU's largest and most popular annual spring fund raiser, Flavor of Louisiana. Nungesser has been especially effective in promoting Louisiana destinations and attractions above I-10, encouraging Louisiana residents to treat themselves to stay-

cations in their home state.

"We are recognizing the lieutenant governor for many of his accomplishments, but primarily for what he has accomplished for northern Louisiana in terms of tourism, his strong dedication to Northwestern State University and his support of our program," said Connie Jones, HMT coordinator.

"I love this city and this university," Nungesser said. "It's the people here who welcome everyone like they are family. The best asset in Louisiana tourism is you."

NSU's HMT program is commemorating its 25th year on 2019. Housed within the School of Business, the program offers a four-year degree with concentrations of study in travel and tourism, hospitality services and culinary arts. The program is integrated with other disciplines, including business, social sciences, communications and public relations.

"Our program is a leader here at NSU in experiential learning," Jones said. "We have a café run by students twice a month and cater multiple functions every month for our program, our college and the university."

HMT's mission statement is to foster a student-centered learning environment that empowers individuals and prepares them to be successful industry professionals. Coursework

throughout the degree program emphasizes experiential learning and service-based involvement.

Nungesser said the hospitality and tourism industry is the fourth largest employer in Louisiana.

"The number of visitors to our state is growing, and much of that can be attributed to the work of hospitality management programs at our universities," Nungesser said. "One of the most resonating themes I've heard from people who have visited Louisiana is about the way they were treated, that they didn't feel like strangers but family. Nowhere else in the world does that happen but in Louisiana."

Information on Northwestern State's Hospitality Management and Tourism program can be accessed at <https://hmt.nsula.edu>.

Nungesser, Lasyone HMT Award : Lt. Gov. Billy Nungesser, left, and restaurateur Angela Lasyone, right, were the first inductees into the new Hall of Distinguished Hospitalitarians, recognized by Northwestern State University's Hospitality Management and Tourism program. Connie Jones, program coordinator, presented each with a plaque. Their names will be included in a permanent plaque displayed on the first floor of NSU's Family and Consumer Sciences building, joining the names of Jay and Lauryn Sharplin of Sharpco Hotels.



# The gap that defines us: education in the south vs the north

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

South vs north - the divide which halves the United States spans further than simple squabbles about how sweet tea should be. From harmful generalizations to cultural debate, our separation stands out in many ways but none more prevalent than the gap in our education systems.

"We have quality teachers in Louisiana, but we are working from behind," Dr. Katrina Jordan, professor of early childhood education, said. "We know the effects of poverty of education can be substantial."

Poverty levels in the south stand as the source of various gaps in overall quality of life, but education has also served as one of its most hard-hit results.

Jordan attests to Louisiana in particular being home to children with incarnated parents with a lack of general basic needs met as well as migrants and those without homes. With the majority of the state's youth lacking educated parents, the likelihood of their children surpassing them is thin.

In many school systems, this results in educators having to adjust to aid those behind, but Jordan emphasizes that keeping standards the same as peers is imperative.

"At no time do we ever lower our expectations," Jordan said. "But we do have to work with some students more than others because of where they are coming from."

Poverty is not the only source the long-time standard of lack of education originates.

"Part of it is a culture, and we

really are digging ourselves out of holes that we were put there by people who don't really know about education," Jordan said.

Jordan notes the political climate of the past has resulted in politicians who do not look to educational professionals for their mandates, resulting in heavy hits against education.

"Doctors are allowed to be professionals and aren't second guessed every step," Jordan said. "Lawyers and other professions do not have the oversight that we do. Everyone thinks they have an insight on education when they don't ask the experts, the educators themselves."

Jordan believes fixing education can only do so much even if it stands as a vehicle out of poverty from the root.

Dr. Michelle Brunson, professor of childhood education, agrees this is part of the overarching problem as the vehicle out is hard to grasp onto when the education received is a direct reflection of a person's place of living.

"School systems in poverty-stricken areas are often rated lower in quality than systems in more affluent areas, and, unfortunately, the south is plagued with poverty," Brunson said. "Where people are poor, there is an insufficient tax base to support public education."

Brunson thinks that the south's educational problems stem from poverty as a direct result from history. The south traditionally relied on an agricultural economy which has directly impacted its legacy and state of living.

"For generations, children quit

school after only a few years to help with farm work and other hard labor," Brunson said. "With this lack of education, generation after generation, poverty became cyclical. Still today, parents in the south attain lower levels of education than parents in the north."

Another prominent obstacle to the south, one in which Brunson actively fights, is the Cradle to Prison Pipeline.

Research demonstrates that if a child is born into poverty, especially to a teenage mother with no degree and a father in prison, the child will be more likely to experience great difficulty in learning how to read due to a lack of resources and will fall behind significantly compared to other peers.

If a child does not score well on third-grade standardized tests, the child is more likely to drop out of school than graduate.

"Research tells us that as a high school dropout, he is more likely to go to prison than to college," Brunson said. "Unfortunately, this cycle is likely to continue with his own children."

Brunson, alongside her husband Natchitoches Parish District Defender Brett Brunson, actively makes a stand against the Cradle to Prison Pipeline effect. She intervenes in child poverty by outreaching to the Natchitoches Parish Library with projects and providing family literacy rides for children.

Research has shown that such intervention causes children at risk to be up to standard and exist the Parish pipeline effect.

"Early Childhood Education

is in the news every day, as we continually discover not only the benefits of quality early care and education but also the necessity," Brunson said. "We are committed to improving the lives of those who cannot provide for themselves, and this, ultimately, can benefit our community for years to come."

Brunson is not the only educator looking for a change, Martha Hopewell, a senior education student, also aims to put her best foot forward in the betterment of education in the south as a soon to be graduated educator.

"I want to make a difference in the world," Hopewell said "With working in schools with students who have a lower socioeconomic status, I have seen the effects of a teacher."

Hopewell thinks that many issues in education stem from the copious amount of stress and pressure placed on Louisiana children for their scores on standardized testing. While agreeing students should be pushed out of their comfort zone, she also wants to make time to allow time for children to simply be children.

"I believe that the state and universities should keep investing in their students," Hopewell said.

"Teachers should strive to push their students and increase their knowledge in all tasks, in and out of the classroom."

With odds often stacked against them, southern educators push themselves forward with passion and determination to close the gap and equip students with the means to better themselves and the world around them.

## It's time to elevate outfits for semiformal season

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

It's getting down to crunch time, y'all, and we all know that semi-formal events are around the corner.

With all of the holidays coming up, I need to elevate my outfits. I love being able to look nice as I avoid my family members for Thanksgiving or try my hardest to talk about anything else but what I'm going to do with my future over Christmas break.

Plus, with semi-formal season creeping up for those who are attending dances, what better time is there to get all dressed up and fancy-looking?

Whether it's for date night with your partner, with your friends or

even by yourself, looking your best helps you feel your best.

I'm all for one to start playing with textures. Velvet is one of my favorite fabrics, so naturally I gravitate to that more often than not. My go-to semi-formal look is a classic slip dress, dressed up with a coat, my personal favorite being faux fur, and block heels.

I also love combining skirts into a semi-formal outfit. If it's a bit chilly outside, try putting on a turtleneck and tucking it into a skirt. The rule for me is that if one article of my outfit is tight, the other should be loose.

Skirts that have a nice flow to them but are tight at the waist are my favorite to style for semi-formal looks.

Textures and fabrics aren't the only things that you can play with when you're finding your semi-formal look. For date nights, I love wearing darker colors. Emerald green is the best color for me, but I love color blocking with simple neutral colors. Black and white are a staple for me.

If your outfit is looking a little plain, you can always make a statement with jewelry. Just remember not to overload on the jewelry. Keep it classy and interesting.

Throwing on a red lip can also instantly class up any look, just beware of lipstick on your teeth.

With all the semi-formal events that are coming up, go out and enjoy your time, but enjoy it in style!



*Photo provided by Mary Gaffney.*



# Faculty feature: Ellis Antoon, an advocate for a better future

**Mekayla Jenkins**

*Photo Editor*

Ellis Antoon is considered one of the gems of NSU by faculty and students. He began his career as a researcher after graduating from Louisiana Tech with a master's degree in medical and health sciences.

Antoon never really thought about becoming a professor until he realized how much he enjoyed teaching and learning from others in the health and sciences field.

"I never really thought about being a professor," Antoon said. "I decided that I wanted to teach future med students, nurses and just students in the health profession."

Antoon hopes to inspire his students to be more than doctors and nurses but actual caretakers. He believes that if health professionals get to know their patients on more than a surface level, it would create a more comfortable environment for practicing health professionals and their patients.

This is Antoon's fifth year at NSU. When taking Antoon's courses,



**Antoon teaches in hopes of inspiring students to just be proactive in life.**

*Photo by Mekayla Jenkins.*

students will learn a lot more than the core material. They will learn things that will help beyond their career.

Believe or not, environmental science didn't even exist before Antoon's arrival.

His fiery passion for helping the environment was sparked by his daughter who learned and spoke up about climate change and wanting a better world for the future.

"My daughter, I learn so much from her," Antoon said "I'm not ready for grandkids yet, but when I do have

them, I want a better world for them."

Through his daughter and his hero Greta, an advocate for climate change, he was inspired to jump start the Environmental Catalyst Organization, better known as ECO.

"I look at it this way: if we don't take this, we're doomed," he said. "This world is our home, and we have to take care of it and each other."

Antoon said that he learns from the young people as much they learn from him.

"Why start this at NSU?" Antoon

asked. "Well, why not NSU?"

Antoon teaches in hopes of inspiring students to just be proactive in life. Antoon speaks passionately about his students, who he refers to as his kids.

"I want my students to know that I'm telling them things that they need to know," he said. "I want my kids to be aware of what's going on because they are the future. They are very important to me. I don't want to do anything else. I don't want to go anywhere else because we are like family here."

"I've always been a fan of Natchitoches and of NSU," he said. "Everyone in my family always embraced NSU, and if something big and positively life changing happens, I want it to happen here."

Antoon wants his students to know that he will not give up on them just like he won't give up advocating for change.

"I don't quit on my students," Antoon said. "I believe in them and that they are the future. This is reality, and that's what life is after college."

## Student spotlight: Christian Boudreaux, the student that captures NSU's most loved memories



**"As a photographer he's extremely talented." Submitted photo.**

**Trinity Velazquez**

*Viewpoints Editor*

Lots of students may only know Christian as the guy who takes RSO photos, but anyone in new media knows that he so much more than the man behind the camera.

Christian Boudreaux is a senior communications major concentrating in broadcast and digital media while minoring in photography. This is his second year as lead photographer and photo editor for the yearbook, the Potpourri.

"I love doing it, and it's really fun," he said. "It all started when I was in Photography II, which was my first photography class I took here. I went to this event in Baton Rouge."

That event was ULS Day in April of 2018.

"I took photos there, and I got photos of Vic the Demon doing the Fork 'Em during the mascot competition," he said. "I brought those into my class, and someone else who was in that class was a photographer for the Current Sauce. He really liked the photos and brought them to the

Current Sauce. They used one of the photos for the front page."

Christian's photo that made the front page was Vic standing in front of the capitol building.

"Right under it, it said photo by Christian Boudreaux," he said. "I thought 'wow that's really cool.' I didn't think my photos were that good."

Right after his photography was published he applied for the yearbook. In the fall of 2018 Christian was offered the position of lead photographer. Megan Palmer, current editor in chief of the Potpourri, offered him the position. Palmer was editor in chief of the yearbook last year as well.

"When I first met Christian, I didn't know he would become someone I would rely on," Palmer said. "He goes above and beyond with any task I give him and even when I don't. His thoughtfulness and passion on capturing the life of the campus has been one of the greatest things he has done for the Potpourri."

Some favorite pictures that he has taken were not hard for him to list.

"There was Attack of the Bands of 2018, and it was one of the band's drummers," he said "It was taken at night, so the photo ended up blurry. The only thing that was blurry was the hands."

The photo didn't end up in the yearbook, but Boudreaux did win an award for it in the student showcase earlier this year.

"It was really crazy too because I had like, more photos than anybody else," he said. "There was someone who was in one of my photography classes, and he was like, 'Hey who is this Christian Boudreaux guy? He's got like 15 of them.'" he laughs as he

says this.

There are several football photos that he really likes.

"I didn't really get good at taking those kinds of photos until this year," he said. "My favorite assignment was the LSU game. It may be the wildest experience in college, just going out onto the field and taking photos out there."

Christian took a photo of headliner Doja Cat at Demonfest last year.

"That could be in a magazine I feel like," he said

When it comes to the Potpourri, he thinks he has a lot more responsibility.

"I think this semester in general, I have a bit more control over the other photographer," he said. "I'm taking more of a leadership role. I'll say, 'We need someone to go to this event' or 'Everybody just letting y'all know we need photos done in a certain way, and we need everything written down.' It's stuff like that, and I never really did that last semester."

He's more confident in himself and as a leader.

The Potpourri has taught Boudreaux something that you can't learn in a classroom.

"I'm actually worth something, as a photographer and as an artist," he said. "I feel like I have a lot more self-confidence about myself."

Christian is proud of his work, and he should be, because people on the Potpourri staff certainly are.

"I've worked with Christian Boudreaux on the Potpourri staff for almost two years," Rebekah Lorio, Greek Life section editor, said "As a fellow staff member, he's always such a pleasant and dependable person to work with. As a photographer he's extremely talented, and I won't

be surprised to see him go on to do amazing things in that field."

Another lesson Boudreaux has learned is to always be prepared.

"You never really know, I get roped up in doing a lot of things," he said. "Always be ready and be prepared to be tired, I guess, because I'm always tired."

Something that Boudreaux hopes to take with him when he graduates is to just be good to other people.

"Coming here and being around other people has made it more clear to me," he said.

Boudreaux was nervous as the deadline got closer, but the Potpourri turned out great in his opinion.

"Last year I got really nervous when the book was starting to come out," he said. "I started to think 'What if the book looks like crap?' I wanted the photos in there to look good. I wanted it to be as good as it could be, and I honestly think it did. We did the best we could with it."

Photography wasn't the only reason the yearbook was such a successful product.

"I think also part of it was everything outside of photography. Just like the design of it in general, the writing and the overall direction of Megan," he says.

He hopes to leave his work ethic behind for the Potpourri.

"I just wanted to do the best I could and be the best I could be," he said. "If I were to leave anything behind, I hope it would be this want to be the best you could be and do the best you can do. Also have fun. I like to think that I take myself serious sometimes, but I know I don't."



# How I am taking ownership of who I am

## A lesson I learned from putting myself first

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

This year I lost myself.

I stayed in a toxic friendship because I was afraid that I would be alone. I went out of my way for a guy in hopes that he would like me back. I went back and forth between my parents trying to keep everyone happy.

What I think hurt me the most was the decision to not change my major even though I wasn't happy in the education field.

I put the wants and needs of others before my own, and I ended up losing sight of who I was. I became the person everyone wanted me to be and not the person I needed to be.

I let fear guide me into almost everything I have done, and I have no one to blame but myself.

I wasn't happy most of this year, and I hated myself for it. A therapist would probably be concerned with the number of had emotional breakdowns I had over this semester alone.

I started to feel emotionally and physically drained. I wasn't sleeping or eating. I started not turning in assignments and not

studying for tests. I didn't care about anything.

Eventually, I hit my breaking point. I decided that I had enough of not feeling like myself, and I did something that I should have done way earlier.

At the end of October, I changed my major from education to communications.

For the first time since the spring, I felt in control. All that stress about things like the PRAXIS test was gone in an instant. I walked out of the registrar's office happier than I have felt all semester.

Why did I wait so long? To be honest, I don't know. I feared disappointing some family members and friends. I put their happiness before my own because I didn't want them to be angry with me.

Now, I'm starting to learn to put myself first and listen to myself. No one knows me better than myself. I wish I hadn't been in such a funk for so long because my negligence of my classes is starting to come back to bite me in the butt.

So right now, I'm playing catchup with my grades and

with myself. I need to know who I am again. I need to figure out who I am and what I want.

Changing my major was the first step, but who knows what the future holds for me. Whatever happens, I am not afraid anymore. I am more confident in myself now than I have been all year.

I not only grew to love the newspaper and the communications department, but I found a home there. Never do I feel a more of sense of belonging than when I walk into the newsroom. And I don't just love journalism. I'm good at it.

That doesn't sound humble at all, but I'm not going to suppress a talent for the fear of coming off as a jerk. I am owning my talent, and I want to share it with the world.

I know how scary it is to speak your truth. We live in a society where people will only read a headline and not look at the full story. I know that we all fear people not listening when we are at our most vulnerable, but what I have learned is that the right people will listen.

The people who love you will

never let you feel abandoned, and they will support whatever decision you make. They want you to be happy.

I am lucky enough to have my mom and my family's support, along with people in the communications department. Most of all, I'm lucky to have such incredible and supportive people to work with on this paper. This decision was hard but worth it.

I do not regret changing my major.

I do not regret putting myself and my wants and needs first.

I'm taking ownership of who I am. And who I am is a journalist.

So, change your major if you aren't happy. Break up with the person you feel is draining the life out of you. Tell the person you love how you feel. Most of all, love yourself the way you love everyone else.

It's time to start taking care of yourself because you are the greatest investment you will ever make.

# Even the slightest smile can go a mile

**Maina Ibn Mohammed**  
Business Manager

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted," Aesop, Greek fabulist and storyteller, said.

Never in a million years would I imagine myself graduating from an American institution. I was born and raised in Nigeria.

When I learned that my uncle was bringing me to America for college, I was perplexed. Here I am four years later currently holding two degrees and receiving two more in December. My life would have had a completely different outcome if not for his help.

Reflect on the last time you helped or offered to help someone, whether it was holding the door open for a classmate, paying for a friend's lunch or helping someone

unload groceries.

While you were doing the action and after that, how did you feel? Joy and contentment, right?

Giving is like an exercise for the soul. Conclusively, science has agreed that there are mental and physical health benefits to helping others. Some of the benefits are the reduction of depression, lower

blood pressure and the lengthening of one's lifespan.

An old Chinese proverb tells it faultlessly. "If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody."



The help you offer does not have to be monetary. You could offer advice and support to friends and family. You could help your classmate through some tough homework or the simplest of all charity, smiling. Just smile and others will smile back.

After reading this article, if you have loose change in your pockets, buy coffee for a friend. Hold the door open for someone. Offer advice to your friend and listen to their problems. Volunteer at a charity event. Look for nonprofits on campus and join their movement. And if all this is out of reach for you, just smile.

As Nelson Mandela once said, "There can be no greater gift than that of giving one's time and energy to helping others without expecting anything in return."



# NSYou

## How would you sum up your semester?



"...I had to learn to adjust to a lot, but I'd say this semester was good and fun. I learned a lot."

**Myria Beverly**  
Freshman  
Dance



"I have had such high moments such as making memories with my friends, having good grades, and having the honor of being Mr. NSU. I have also had some lows during this semester that I never thought that I would have to experience, but at the end of the day I made it. I saw those challenges, I stayed on the ride and I'm finishing strong!"

**Char' train Wilson**  
Senior  
Biology



"One word: Hell."  
**Essence Moore**  
Freshman  
Psychology



"There have been some struggles but nothing worth having comes easy."

**Camren Green**  
Junior  
Psychology

## Editorial Take advantage of the first amendment

The first amendment not only gives us the right to free speech but gives us the right to not salute for the flag, to protest war and in some cases, it gives us the right not to speak.

We all have choices. We do not have to support something just because everyone else does. There are so many things that divides the people of this country. As an editorial board we must agree on almost everything, yet each one of us are so very different. Disagreements happen.

It takes a sense of courage to publicly speak out on what one may believe in, especially if that

belief will make people unhappy. As a form of press, we face that scrutiny daily.

We persist because as a form of press it is our duty to serve the public, whether the news may help or hurt our reputation.

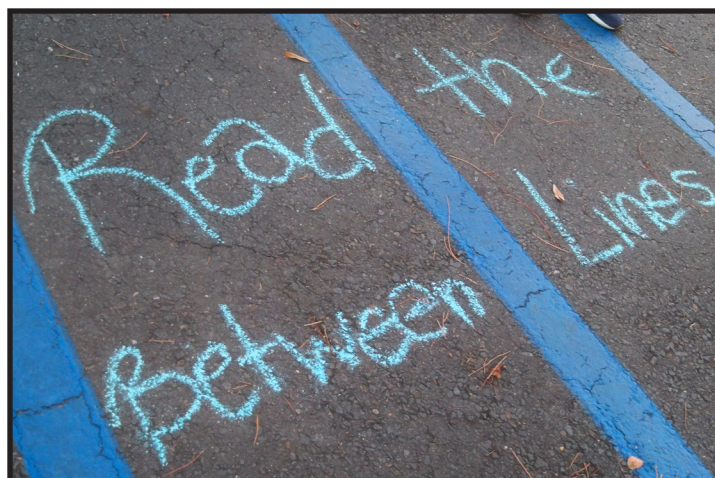
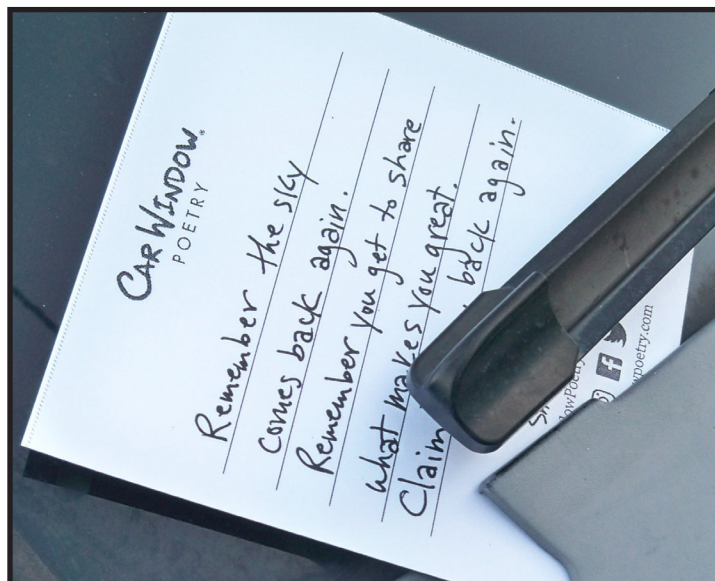
The right to free speech is not something Americans should take lightly. Most countries don't have this law for their citizens, but the United States does. Citizens in other countries are dying for expressing their opinion.

Students on college campuses voice their opinion all the time, whether it's on social media, in the newspaper, in the cafeteria etc.

Now, we believe that just because students can voice their opinions doesn't mean that others must listen. We always like to have opinion pieces backed up with facts.

The freedom of speech does not give someone the right to slander or defame another person based on the color of their skin, the religion they follow, who they identify as or who they love.

We serve to the pleasure of the students, and we will always be proud of whatever we publish. The first amendment is on our side, and we are on the side of our fellow students.



Students from Dr. Rebecca Macijeski's English 3030 class which is a collaborative, experimental class that combines arts and words. This is her class's work from Oct. 30.



# Historic season ends with loss to Lamar



**Nicole Henry scored the lone goal for NSU, firing a shot top right shelf after a pass from Alexis Weaver.** *Photo by Chris Reich.*

## Jonathon Zenk

*NSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant*

CONWAY, Ark.—Esther Okoronkwo's strong play was too much for the Northwestern State soccer team to overcome, as the Lady Demons fell 3-1 in the Southland Conference Tournament Championship at the Bill Stephens Track and Soccer Complex on Sunday.

Okoronkwo scored two goals and had an assist, while Conference Player of the Year Lucy Ashworth had a goal for the Cardinals.

The season ends for NSU at 13-8-1, but it was a historic season for the Lady Demons. NSU finished with the second-most wins and second-most conference points in school history. NSU was picked eighth in the preseason polls but finished with its best finish since 2005 (2nd).

"There were some chances both ways, and we were getting the ball into some good spaces, but just weren't converting," co-head coach Jess Jobe said. "We were limiting Lamar early on, as both teams were

kind of feeling each other out.

"We felt pretty positive about how things started, but we made a few mistakes on the goals. Overall, our team fought really hard. We gave it everything we could and I'm proud of our players for their effort."

Nicole Henry scored the lone goal for NSU, firing a shot top right shelf after a pass from Alexis Weaver. It is the sophomore's first career goal.

Allowing three goals, the Lady Demons finished 0-5 in games in which they allowed at least two goals.

For Lamar (16-6), the Cardinals earned their second NCAA Tournament appearance in three seasons.

It took 31 minutes for either team to get off a shot, but when Lamar did, the Cardinals cashed in. Okoronkwo raced down the left side and sent it into the box, and Ashworth slid it in to send in to the back of the net to give Lamar the first lead.

It was the only scoring of the first half.

NSU had the first shot of the

second half on a header by Olivia Draguicevich, but it was saved by Lamar goalkeeper Erin Branch in the 48th minute.

Shortly thereafter, in the 51st minute, Okoronkwo had an incredible individual effort to put Lamar in front 2-0. She weaved through and sent it in low left for the goal from the box.

Okoronkwo scored her second on the day minutes later on a header from the middle of the box to make it 3-0. It was the largest deficit for NSU since trailing 4-0 late against Baylor in the second game of the season.

Henry, the Southland Conference Defender of the Year, jump started the offense for NSU with a shot that was stopped by Branch before Henry shot one into the top right corner for the first goal of the game for NSU.

NSU had chances to cut further into the deficit, but couldn't get the second goal into the back of the net.

In the 81st minute, freshman Kaitlyn Poirrier had a chance, but her shot went just wide left. Minutes later, Weaver's header went high. The last chance came in the 88th

minute when sophomore Jalen Donaldson's shot from outside the box on the top left-hand side sailed high.

It was the final contest for three Northwestern State seniors: Kayla Bomben, Jayden Wheeler and Courtney LeJeune. Wheeler finished with a career-high three goals and was a major offensive threat down the stretch, scoring three goals in the final six games.

Bomben saved her best for last, having a goals against average of 0.99 and recorded two shutouts. LeJeune could not play in either of the past two seasons but has been a major leader from the sidelines.

"Obviously everyone is disappointed and emotional right now, but it is important to know what an impact they have had on this program," Jobe said. "They have helped us with the coaching transition and getting on board with the philosophy and the cultural changes we've tried to instill."

NSU won the shot battle 10-7, but Lamar had six shots on goal, compared to NSU's four. Henry led NSU in shots with three.



# LSU Tigers end Alabama Crimson Tide's home-game winning streak



Photo courtesy of flickr.com.

**Albert Hewitt**  
Contributing writer

The Tigers of Louisiana State University are having an impressive season thus far. They have prevailed against every opponent they've faced. Prior to their much-anticipated matchup against Alabama, the Tigers were able to defeat three opponents that were ranked in the top 10 nationally.

The Tigers have been a force to be reckoned with this season, but Alabama has been hot on their trail. Alabama, who has beaten LSU eight years in a row, also came into this matchup undefeated.

The Tigers rolled into Bryant-Denny stadium with one thing on their mind: redemption.

On the opening drive of the game, Alabama had no problem marching down the field. It seemed as if the Tide were about to score as they reached the red zone, but quarterback Tua Tagovailoa fumbled

on the eight-yard line.

LSU took full advantage of the turnover and proceeded to put together an impressive first drive of their own.

The Tigers, who arguably have one of the best offenses in the nation, wasted no time putting points on the board. Heisman favorite quarterback Joe Burrow was able to connect with wide receiver Ja'Marr Chase on a 33-yard touchdown reception.

After the Tigers forced Tagovailoa and his offense to go three and out, they were able to put three more points on the board to increase their lead to 10-0.

Although Alabama's offense struggled in the first quarter, they were able to turn a punt into points after a 77-yard return by wide receiver Jaylen Waddle. This return put the Tide on the board for the first time, bringing the score to 10-7.

The Tigers found the end zone on

the following drive with a one-yard touchdown run by running back Clyde Edwards-Helaire. After one quarter of play, LSU was up 16-7.

The Tigers ultimately went on to dominate the first half. They were able to force a turnover that changed the momentum of the game.

The Tigers went into halftime up 33-13 after scoring on three consecutive drives, gaining two touchdowns and one field goal.

Despite the Tide outscoring the Tigers 28-14 in the second half, the Tigers' epic first-half performance proved to be enough to come out on top.

Joe Burrow finished with 393 passing yards and three touchdowns. This only helped his Heisman case this season.

Edwards-Helaire added 103 rushing yards and three touchdowns of his own.

The Tigers beat Alabama 46-41, ending the eight-year skid.

## Editorial Board

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**Sports Editor**

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**Photo Editor**

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Football

11/16/19 12 p.m.  
@Huntsville, Texas  
vs. Sam Houston State

### Men's Basketball

11/16/19 1 p.m.  
@New Orleans, Louisiana  
vs. Tulane

11/19/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Louisiana College

### Women's Basketball

11/13/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Jackson State

11/18/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Monroe, Louisiana  
vs. ULM

### Volleyball

11/14/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Texas A&M - CC

11/16/19 11 a.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Incarnate Word



## Results of last week's schedule

### Football

11/9/19 4 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs Lamar  
W 34-13

### Soccer

11/8/19 4 p.m.  
@Conway, Arkansas  
vs. Sam Houston State  
W 1-0

11/10/19 1 p.m.  
@Conway, Arkansas  
vs. Sam Houston State  
L 1-3

### Volleyball

11/7/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Huntsville, Texas  
vs. Sam Houston State  
L 2-3

11/9/19 1 p.m.  
@Houston, Texas  
vs. Houston Baptist  
L 1-3





## Scholars', English offer dual degree program



Students will earn a bachelor's in the Louisiana Scholars' College, as well as a master's in English. Photo courtesy of Potpourri.

**Keator Poleman**  
Contributing writer

NSU's Department of English, Foreign Languages & Cultural Studies is teaming up with the Louisiana Scholars' College to provide an accelerated dual degree program. Students will earn a bachelor's degree in humanities and social thought and a master's degree in English.

Dr. Keith Dromm, associate professor at Scholars' College and program coordinator, said prospective students may begin submitting applications in spring 2020. Those accepted will begin graduate classes the following academic year. Current Scholars' students may apply beginning their junior year.

The program is only available to students from Scholars' College.

Dr. Ereck Jarvis, associate professor of English and coordinator of graduate studies, said the new initiative does not change the curriculum of either existing program.

The current graduate level program consists of 30 credit hours, including a thesis paper. Scholars' College students must also complete a thesis to complete their program.

Dromm said the similar course structure of Scholars' classes make it "especially suited" for the new program.

"As the state's designated honors college, it is part of the mission of the Scholars' College to think of new and innovative ways of delivering honors education to Louisiana residents," Dromm said. "This program is an example of

that, and we're very excited about offering this accelerated path to an advanced degree to our current and future students."

Koral Richard, freshman Scholars' College student, said the program seems beneficial to students. "This is a great school, and it's a lot nicer to get all of that done here," she said.

Richard said she felt sad when she learned the accelerated program was only offered in one department.

"It should be offered in other areas," she added.

Jarvis said he is hopeful similar programs will be added in the future.

NSU students interested in applying to Scholars' College should contact their office at 318-357-4578.

## McClinton named KNWD GM

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

NSU's student media board met Thursday and selected Tifphany McClinton as KNWD's spring general manager.

McClinton is a sophomore English major with a concentration in film and a minor in theater. She has been involved with KNWD since she transferred to NSU in spring 2019.

"I feel like KNWD brings a lot of personality to campus, and I would like to bring more," McClinton said.

McClinton started her time at KNWD as a DJ with a show called "Tifph's Tunes," where she played mostly alternative music. This semester, McClinton served as the music director.

Cinnamon Player, this semester's outgoing general manager, said she thinks McClinton will be a good fit for general manager. Player said even when she interviewed McClinton for music director, McClinton already had ideas and enthusiasm about what to do with the station.

"I was like all right, this is what we need," Player said.

Player said she is confident McClinton will keep that same enthusiasm as general manager.

"She seems like she knows what she wants to do with the radio station, which makes me feel good that I'm leaving it in good hands," Player said.

KNWD's general manager has many responsibilities. She runs the station's daily operations, oversees DemonFest in the spring, recruits new members at Freshman Connection sessions in the summer and hosts College Radio Day in the fall. The general manager also helps with First Night Fest, Attack of the Bands and N-Side View Day.

The student media board will meet in the spring to select the student media leaders for the 2020-2021 school year.



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### Quote of the Week

*"When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be."*

**Lao Tzu**

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- 5 Viewpoints:** Don't ask me if I have a boyfriend
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# Enrollment open for Call Me MiSTER program

**Leah Jackson**

*Director of Public Information and Media Relations*

NATCHITOCHES—Enrollment is open for the Call Me MISTER program at Northwestern State University, an initiative aimed at recruiting African American males to be teachers and mentors, particularly at low-performing schools. The first cohort of students will begin the program in the Fall 2020 semester.

Call me MISTER (Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models) was founded at Clemson University in 2000 to address the critical shortage of minority male teachers in America's classrooms. Student participants are largely selected from underserved, socioeconomically disadvantaged and educationally at-risk communities.

Northwestern State has a rich legacy of teacher preparation and is proud to partner with Clemson University to fulfill this goal, according to Ramona Wynder, program coordinator.

"Only two percent of America's public school teachers are African American men, according to the U.S. Department of Education, but there is a place for African American male teachers in our schools and classrooms," Wynder said. "African American men need to be viewed in positive contexts. What better place for that to happen than in our schools? This program has the potential to change lives."

Antavious Roberson is a 2018 graduate of Northwestern State and is currently the fourth and fifth grade math teacher at Crawford Elementary School in Arcadia, his hometown. He said his students definitely react differently to him than peers because a young African American man teaching elementary school is not the norm.



**Roberson, left: "My students are more engaged and motivated about the material that I present to them. They're more eager to listen and do as they are asked." With NSU President Dr. Chris Maggio. Image courtesy of news.nsula.edu**

"Typically, students matriculate through grade school not ever seeing a male in the classroom," Roberson said. "They're more conditioned to seeing them in administrative roles such as a principal. The impact that I have on my students is quite noticeable. My students are more engaged and motivated about the material that I present to them. They're more eager to listen and do as they are asked."

Roberson chose to pursue education as a career because of the influence of two African American teachers.

"Prior to my sophomore year of high school, I had never had a black male teacher. Being able to

see someone that not only looked like me, but came from the same circumstances, influenced me a great deal to choose teaching as a profession."

Applications for Call Me MISTER will be reviewed on a competitive basis each spring for consideration for cohorts that will begin each fall semester. Preference will be given to graduating high school seniors; two-year community college transfers; and first-year college freshmen. Eligible candidates will be selected based upon their potential for teaching and their motivation for participation in the program.

Prospective Misters must be a minority male and come from an

underserved, socioeconomically disadvantaged, and/or educationally at-risk community. They must major in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Health & Physical Education or Music Education and demonstrate record of high scholastic achievement and participation in extra-curricular and community service activities.

Misters will benefit from financial assistance to help cover tuition and fees, instructional support and preparation for licensure exams, a cohort system for social and cultural support and leadership development. They will gain immediate exposure to a classroom environment and job placement assistance after graduation.

"Research shows that teachers of color boost the academic performance of students of color," Wynder said. "Increasing teacher diversity is important for closing achievement gaps."

"The people who have inspired me as a student, and as a teacher are Cynthia Mason, my fourth grade teacher; Christopher Jackson, my 10th grade English teacher, and Dr. April Giddens, NSU College of Education. Those three phenomenal people have all instilled in me what it means to be an educator, and I thank them for that," Roberson said.

"What I would tell my peers who are looking to pursue a career in education is to be the teacher or person that you needed when you were their age," he added. "The students are looking to find some part of themselves in you. They want to know that you care about them. Once you show them that you have their best interest at heart, they will perform for you."

For more information or to enroll in Call Me MISTER, contact Wynder at wynderr@nsula.edu or (318) 357-4549.



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**thecurrentsauce@gmail.com**



# Student spotlight: Cinnamon Player, KNWD's first black, female GM



Even though she thought she couldn't be a leader, she had many ideas she wanted to bring to KNWD. Cinnamon Player from her Facebook.

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

"I really wasn't expecting to be (general) manager," Player said. "Through all the semesters that I was with KNWD, I wasn't expecting it."

Player has been with KNWD since her freshman year, starting as an unpaid intern. When she first came to NSU, she was a psychology major.

"I went to freshman connection and realized, 'this isn't for me,'" she said. "As soon as I sat down someone started talking, and I was like 'yeah this isn't for me whatsoever.'"

"I have to change my major before I start, so I thought 'what do I like to do?'" she said. "I know I like being creative."

Player joined the communications field and then wondered about her next step.

"Really, I was worried about how I was going to make money while I was in school," she said.

She forgot to put work study on her FAFSA, so she started to find jobs on campus to get extra scholarships.

"I don't remember how, but I found the radio station when I was looking up stuff," she said. "I was also in band, and there was a person who knew one of the people that worked at KNWD. Then they introduced me to him."

That man was James Leach, the audio productions manager before her.

"He was like, 'so what part of radio are you interested in?', and I

was like, 'anything,'" she said.

Leach told her to apply for freshman scholar, a position in which a freshman can receive a scholarship through any organization in new media.

"I applied, and I waited and waited," she said.

Through a series of unfortunate mishaps with technology, she accidentally missed her scheduled interview and didn't get the scholarship.

She emailed Courtney Page, the general manager at the time, and Page told her that she would be great as a DJ because of how she answered her application. Page was open to hiring volunteers, so Player joined the team as an intern.

One day, she popped her head into the audio productions office.

"I just rolled my chair over and I peeped in," she said. "He (Leach) stopped what he was doing, and he was looking. I was like, 'can I watch you?'"

"I was amazed by what he was doing," she said. "He's recording and editing. It was cool, and I wanted to learn it."

From then on, she would sit with Leach in his office and watch him work.

"That was my set spot," she said.

"One day he was talking of leaving KNWD, and I wanted to apply for radio productions assistant," she said. "I asked who was going to take his spot, and he was like, 'you could take it.'"

She applied for the position in spring 2017, and she got the job

as audio productions director. As a freshman, she was the youngest department head.

She was the audio productions director from spring 2017 until spring 2019.

Player is a senior communications major with a concentration in broadcast and digital media. She is minoring in business because of her background in audio productions. She wants to learn more about reporting audio.

"I watched staff come and go," she said. "Then the time for general manager came. At first people weren't looking at me, and then they started looking at me. I was like, 'audio productions for life.'"

"I was like 'not gonna be me,'" she said. "I had no interest in a leadership position because I didn't think that I could be a leader."

Even though she thought she couldn't be a leader, she had many ideas she wanted to bring to KNWD.

"I always had all these ideas for the station, and I love the radio station," she said. "I spend so much time in the radio station," she says.

Spring 2019 came and Kenneth Burns, the advisor for student media, asked if she would apply for general manager.

Everyone was asking her if she would apply and she thought to herself, "Look school just started. Just give me a second."

"I was also worried I wouldn't be able to take the position anyway because general manager position is on a year basis, and I expect to graduate in the fall of 2019," she said.

They worked something out because it had been done before, and Player became the general manager at the end of last spring.

She's only able to be the general manager for this semester, but she's already been recognized by Dr. Jim Henderson, the University of Louisiana System president. Actor Robert Ri'chard has also stopped by to visit the station.

"I feel like general manager is more of a guide," she said. "You're guiding everybody. It's not about telling the staff what to do. It's making sure you're guiding them where they need to go and moving forward."



## ASK VIC

**Q** Hey Vic! Unfortunately, I am unable to travel home for the holidays this year. I was just wondering if you have any tips on how to celebrate the holidays in Natchitoches.

**A** Holidays in Natchitoches can be a thrill. Here are a few tips that should get you through the holiday season.

- **Enjoy the festivities.** Natchitoches isn't called the "City of lights" for no reason. Head down to Front Street to take in all of the beauty that the city has to offer.

- **Volunteer.** There are many organizations around town that are always looking for volunteers to assist with events around this time of the year. Lend a helping hand during the season of giving.

- **Don't spend your break alone if you don't have to.** Chances are, you aren't the only person that has to stay in Natchitoches during the break. Find friends that may have to stay as well and make the most of it!

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Have a question for Vic? Hit us up on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or email!

@thecurrentsauce  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# How the fork do I move out?

## Simple steps will ensure a smooth dorm departure

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

The semester is ending. There's a lot going on. Finals are stressful. It's almost hard to remember the other main event at the end of the semester: moving out.

Packing may suck and tire you out, but you don't have to completely move out of your dorm at the end of the fall semester.

This may be your third year living on-campus. This may be your first semester. Either way, these tip and tricks will help make the packing process go smoothly.

### Bring what you need

This may be the most obvious, but it is too important not to cover. Make sure to pack the essentials for a long trip home. Students do not move out all of their belongings until the spring, but you will be unable to return to your dorm for a month. Make sure you have all you need to assure a comfortable break between semesters.

### Get rid of perishable items

While deciding to finish off your last carton of milk or throw it away, check for perishable items in your refrigerator and freezer to assure your dorm is not infested by a terrible odor and overgrown mold.

### Deep clean your dorm

Speaking of odor, be sure to return to a clean dorm after our lengthy holiday. Take out the trash in all rooms, make sure to vacuum and scrub everything from the cabinets to the toilets.

### Lock everything

Last but not least, lock every room in your dorm and the main door to assure everything you leave behind is safe and secure for the upcoming semester. Safety is always first.

Start off the new semester on the right foot by preparing for it before it's even begun. Follow these steps, and you can enjoy a happy and stress-free break.

# Beat the holiday blues with fashion

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

The holiday season brings events, parties and, not to mention, finals. To cheer myself up and prepare for the dread that final season that will bring, I like to focus on what brings me joy: fashion.

But with seasonal depression hitting me like a truck, I also have found a lack of love for my closet. I'm here to share my way of getting out of the holiday funk with fashion.

The first step with fashion is self-care. It is the most important part of being able to find your own style. Use a face mask, take a deep breath and realize that even with finals, papers and tests galore not too far ahead of us, you are going to get through it.

Now on to what to wear.

My go-to outfits have been sweaters, my favorite mom jeans and sneakers. And it's been tiring.

Getting up in the morning to throw on the same paint-stained jeans and another cream sweater is just not my vibe at the moment. I want pizzazz.

To keep my essentials without buying more clothes, I like to throw a sweater over a dress. This adds coziness to the outfit that keeps it warm and winter-ready.

I like to add tights underneath my dresses to keep me warm. I am a cold-natured person, and I prefer being as warm as possible.

Boots are the beloved favorite of the season, but I also love the look of socks and heels. I love to match my socks to a color in the outfit to tie it all together, as well as scrunchies.

Try bringing out summer pieces and throw a sweater or turtleneck over or underneath to keep you warm.

We are taking back hot girl summer. We are bringing in hot girl winter.



Photo provided by Mary Gaffney.

**The Current Sauce staff applications are open on Purple Presence!**

NSU fraternity investigation for...  
Classic on the Cane marching contest returns to NSU

Vol. 105, No. 1  
October 30, 2019



# Don't ask me if I have a boyfriend

**Trinity Velazquez**  
*Viewpoints Editor*

The holidays are said to be the most wonderful time of year, but that is a lie. They are the most stressful time of year. The holidays bring families together but also tear them apart.

Family members you barely recognize come to town for a day, if you are lucky. Awkward conversations and questions arise. Basic questions like “How’s school?” or “What’s your major?” are easy to answer. The conversations that follow are easy and slightly interesting.

I like when other people tell me their life stories.

But then comes the inevitable question. An uncle or aunt plops

down next to me as I stuff ham down my throat and asks, “Why don’t you have a boyfriend? You are too pretty to be single.”

First, thank you for the compliment.

Second, I stare at my shoes like they are the most interesting thing in the world when a guy makes eye contact with me.

Third, why does it matter? I’m pretty, regardless if I have a boyfriend or not.

The question bothers me, but the attempt to encourage me when I don’t need it is what annoys me the most. No one has to tell me that I will find someone or that the right person will come when I’m ready. I know that, people tell girls that all the time.

Why don’t my brothers get asked if they have a girlfriend? They’re asked questions about scholarships, job opportunities and sports. Why don’t I get those? I have scholarships, I follow my college sports teams and I have a job. I can answer any questions you might have.

Instead of asking me about relationships, why not ask me about how I want to use my degree to change the world? Ask me about my plans after graduation or what internships I want to apply for.

Why can’t we talk about matters more substantial than my dating life? We could talk about politics, the news, religion, and new TV shows. You could rant about how my cousin never

does the dishes.

Ask me why I changed majors, and I will tell you how excited and happy I am working for my college newspaper. Ask me about my experience as an editor and everything I have been able to do because of it.

If you have to ask, I don’t have a boyfriend because I don’t have the time or energy to pay attention to someone else. I already need it for myself.

I have so much more to offer than just telling you, “No, I don’t have a boyfriend. I’m too busy getting my degree.”

So, don’t ask me if I have a boyfriend. Just watch me stuff my mouth.

## Why I’m sick of ‘strong’ female characters

**Brianna Corley**  
*Arts and Living Editor*

Clad in a leather catsuit and a switch-blade smile of red lipstick, our heroine slides in effortlessly in her stiletto heels. She sighs with a flick of her perfect curls and rolls her eyes as she professes with such coolness, “Boys.”

She’s sexy, she picks up after the men and most importantly, she is I-N-D-E-P-E-N-D-E-N-T.

From books to film, we cannot escape the established idea of the femme fatale and praise the archetype for its portrayal of women. Truthfully, this conception of strong is harmful and shallow.

The problem is that strong is the word most heavily relied on. It’s meant as strong actions, not strong character.

Writers and directors shifted focus to what a character must accomplish to be strong rather than what it takes to get them there. They don’t focus on females as people with motives and traits to allow character development.

Take Katniss Everdeen. While she never cleaned up after the boys, she wore her fair share of leather, led a rebellion and outsmarted the world’s deadliest game. These are all astonishing achievements for one character to have.

Her progression to how she got to these places in the story makes sense, but the most basic ideas are missing.

Can you think of a defining trait for Katniss? And not a basic trait like kind, brave or rebellious.

Neither can most people. Katniss

Everdeen, like many before and after her, is defined by what she did, not who she was.

The male gaze has an effect on strong female characters being portrayed with perfect makeup and unable to cry in any fashion that isn’t a single, gliding tear. This fear of making a female character have flaws, and a personality as a result, is a writer’s fault.

Perhaps this comes from a fear of not exemplifying the “woke” way which the world seems to now run its course. It’s this idea of a female character not being the epitome of a fearless machine as strong as her male counterparts.

Even Harry Potter changed Hermione in the screenplay adaption to a perfect, unshakable student and strayed away from her roots as a muggle-born girl who couldn’t think quickly in danger and didn’t always turn to the perfect spell.

If a writer hopes to create female characters, they must write women for all they encompass. Let them be cruel and weak. Feminine and soft. Strong and tomboyish.

Make sure they cause mishaps and make terrible mistakes. Define them as the stories they are, not the ones they are navigating.

Strength in a character is found in making them dynamic and real - not in leather catsuits.

### Thanksgiving Unscramble

RTKUYE \_\_\_\_\_

SNUFGFTI \_\_\_\_\_

HMA \_\_\_\_\_

IRLGSIPM \_\_\_\_\_

VOMBERNE \_\_\_\_\_

YSMA \_\_\_\_\_

RAVYG \_\_\_\_\_

IISNAND \_\_\_\_\_

IAHLODY \_\_\_\_\_

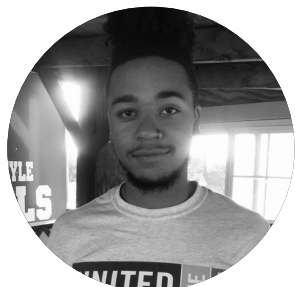
AFEST \_\_\_\_\_

BSISNGEL \_\_\_\_\_



## NSYou

### How do you prepare for finals?



"Stress [...] out while looking at all possible information given for that class, fall asleep studying and then when I wake up, repeat that process."

**David Callis**  
Biology  
Sophomore



"The best way to study for finals is to have a lot of snacks, study three subjects or less and take seven-minute breaks every 30 minutes of studying."

**Jakayla Lee**  
Criminal Justice  
Senior



"I study day by day, but I really just study the night before and hope for the best."

**Julia Laperouse**  
Criminal Justice  
Sophomore



"I do all my work listening to music. Whatever song I was listening to when I learned the combo or worked in the classroom is the song I play. I breathe and let my muscle memory guide me."

**Devon Favorite**  
Dance  
Freshman

## My NSU family supports me through the hardest times

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

It has been a rough 2019, my fellow Demons, but we got through it. Whatever happened, we got through it as a family.

When we lost students last school year, we mourned together. When we welcomed new students, we all opened our arms. When we voiced our concerns for funded higher education, better housing conditions and longer hours in Vic's, we rallied together.

This Demon has had a hard year. I said goodbye to a lot of people in my life way too soon. Some I lost to illness, some I lost to distance and one I lost to a car accident. I ended up losing myself as well, as I wrote about last week, but I am no longer lost. But I am tired of losing people. I am tired of saying goodbye.

There are fewer than two months left in this year and about two weeks left in this semester. There were so many times I just wanted to stop.

I wanted to stop writing for this newspaper. I wanted to stop going to class. I even thought about stopping my education here all together.

But I didn't. I knew there would be a day when the feeling of wanting to stop would stop. That day isn't today. It might not be tomorrow or during break, but it is coming. When that day comes, I want to be with my NSU community. I could never bring myself to leave my fellow Demons.

Demon family, I know we are tired, and we feel like we want to stop. But we are so close to the finish line. We are about to enter a new decade, and we are entering it together. We all have lost family and friends, but we have each other.

I am proud to be a part of the wonderful Demon family.

Let's bring some Demon heat into this next year.

## Demon Debate:

### Should you give your best efforts during the "talking stage" of a relationship?

**Sarah LeDuff**  
NSU Student

**PRO:** Heartbreak is inevitable. Anything can break your heart. We all experience death, loss and grief.

The talking stage of a relationship can either end with a new relationship of heartbreak. You either win or lose, so of course you should give your all when trying to date someone.

The talking stage can be scary, especially if you really like the person. But that is the exact reason why you should try your best.

If you know that you tried your best at the beginning, then you have nothing to lose at the end. It's that person's loss if they didn't see how much energy you were willing to give them.

Another reason why you should give someone your all during the talking stage is you may get a potential friend and confidant out of the lost romantic relationship.

When trying to get close to someone, you should tell them a secret to show your vulnerability. When you show your vulnerability, another person will do the same.

If both people are willing to share and be open with one another, that is a beautiful result on its own.

Communication is key, no matter what stage of a relationship you are in. Honesty can hurt, but it won't always hurt.

Tell the person how you feel about them. If they feel the same, then we owe everything to the "dreaded talking stage."

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Viewpoints Editor

**CON:** The talking stage is probably the most mentally draining part of dating as a young adult. No one ever knows what they want, and feelings get hurt when it could have been avoided.

What is the talking stage of a relationship? The talking stage, as best as I can describe, is when two people are in the process of getting to know one another. It sounds simple and easy, but it is far from it.

Depending on who you are, the talking stage can make you open and share your darkest secrets right away. It can keep you at your most guarded. Lots of people fall for another person during this stage, and feelings aren't reciprocated. That is why there are lots of "almost relationships."

I am one of those people that can fall easily. Maybe it's because I've been single for such a long time, but I just get so excited when I'm getting to

know a guy. Most of time, he doesn't feel the way I feel, and I get my heart broken.

The talking stage has let me down so many times that I have just stopped trying. I don't think you should give your best efforts when in this stage because it causes unnecessary drama and heartache.

You either end up with the person you want, or you end up alone. It's not worth it. It can leave you feeling lonely and like an idiot.

I think that when in this stage, keeping your guard up is the best thing to do. If the person really wants you, they will let you know. You shouldn't have to give all your energy toward a person that can't make up their mind.

People are simple, so keep this stage simple. The talking stage when trying to form a romantic relationship is the worst, but I hope that getting to know another person through this can help with making a new friend.



# Lady Demons celebrate win on senior day



**During the match Warren earned her 1,000th career kill, making her the fourth player in NSU history with 1,000 career kills and digs.**

*Photo by Chris Reich.*

## Jonathon Zenk

*NSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant*

**NATCHITOCHES** – Playing with a little extra motivation on senior day, Northwestern State looked like the team that won eight straight just a couple weeks ago in the 3-1 regular season finale win on Saturday afternoon.

“It was kind of back to form us to be able to withstand some difficult situations and come back and keep playing as a team,” coach Sean Kiracofe said. “It was knowing what we can do well and showing a different look here and there to get back on track and we did a great job of that.”

The Lady Demons (19-11, 11-5 SLC) closed the regular season with their best overall and Southland Conference records under Kiracofe, poised for their first 20-win season since 2013 should they win their first-round tournament match next week.

NSU used the formula it had during the meat of the conference

schedule to take the match. Set one was about scouting Incarnate Word, and after a lull in the second, dominant play to win the third and fourth sets sealing the win.

The Cardinals used a 4-0 run midway through the first set to tie things at 16, but the Lady Demons regained control quickly with a 6-2 run that stonewalled any more building UIW momentum.

Kills from Hannah Brister and Addison McDermott, and an ace from Kourtney Seaton, made it a 22-18 set, giving NSU enough room to trade points the rest of the way until Darria Williams sealed things at 25-22.

Set two was a near reverse copy of the first, with UIW using a 5-1 run to hold an 18-12 lead late in the frame. The six-point advantage held the rest of the set as the teams traded point for point until the 25-19 winner from UIW’s Carissa McGarity.

The extended timeout between sets two and three played right into the Demons favor, evidenced by the 13-3 start to the third set.

Four quick points on the opening serve of Cayman Sutton, then six more moments later during Megan Lohmiller’s serve rotation put NSU in total control of the pivotal set.

The NSU block was the difference, with Seaton, Skylar Besch, and Alexis Warren combining for eight block assists in the third set alone as the offense provided plenty of support on 13 kills, making the 25-15 final not as close as it would indicate.

UIW responded well after the third and kept the fourth from getting away from them, limiting their own errors while NSU continued to pound away at the ball. A dramatic 4-0 run with the match tied at 13, sparked an already enthused Lady Demon team.

A point reversal that gave a kill to Sutton was followed by the best rally of the match where both sides scrambled to get touches on the ball, with the defenses saving multiple points, until Seaton slammed the winner off a set from Williams to cap the play.

The Cardinals made a late push

to get within three, but two kills from McDermott and Brister and a UIW error ended the match at 25-19.

“Getting the win going into the tournament is always great,” Kiracofe said. “And you always want to win on senior day because it’s special for them. For them to step up and play the way they did is to be expected but also something that you want for them to be able to remember this day and feel really good about it.”

During the match Warren earned her 1,000th career kill, making her the fourth player in NSU history with 1,000 career kills and digs.

The Lady Demons play their next match in Conway, Arkansas on Friday in the first round of the conference tournament. NSU enters the tournament as one of the top contenders to take home the title on Sunday afternoon.

Stay connected to NSU volleyball by following @NSUDemonsVB on Twitter and Instagram or by liking Northwestern State volleyball on Facebook.



# Win against Sam Houston State came courtesy of 'beautiful' finish



Anderson Stadford has 31 yards on that final drive, converting on short yardage. Photo by Chris Reich.

## Jason Pugh

Assistant AD for Media Relations

NATCHITOCHES – For all the high-flying numbers the Northwestern State offense has put up across the past two seasons, the Demons turned back the clock Saturday afternoon.

And in Brad Laird's eyes, it was beautiful.

"We have the ball with about five and a half minutes, and they have all three of their timeouts," Laird said. "Five minutes and 26 seconds. They never got the ball back. Sam Houston, playing for the conference championship, never got the ball back. The way the offensive line and offense finished, and the way the defense played the second half was great to watch live."

NSU's methodical clock-draining drive sealed the Demons' 31-28 victory against the Bearkats, who entered the game in a four-way tie for the Southland Conference lead and left on the outside looking in on the title race.

It also continued a strong second half of the season that has produced three wins in a four-game stretch that began with a 44-41 overtime win at Incarnate Word on Oct. 26. At that time, UIW was tied for the conference lead before the Demons found their finishing kick in San Antonio.

That run has continued, mostly interrupted, because of a renewed sense of how to close out games with the Demons doing so in different ways. A week ago, it was by pulling away from Lamar with three touchdowns in the

final 16:09 in the game.

The final points of Saturday's win against Sam Houston State came with 8:03 remaining in the third quarter when record-setting quarterback Shelton Eppler walked into the end zone from 5 yards out for his first career rushing touchdown, part of a 31-yard rushing day for the NSU signal caller.

"Eppler did a great job of moving in the pocket, creating yardage with his feet," Laird said. "They were selling out to stop everybody but Shelton on that touchdown run. Great job by him reading it and pulling it. He has the ability to get those sneaky three- to four- or six- to seven-yard gains that, when you look back through four quarters, are big plays in a game."

The second-half slugfest would not have been possible without the Demons' defense tightening up after a slow start.

Sam Houston State scored on each of its first two possessions, covering 112 yards on 18 plays. From there, the Purple Swarm limited the Bearkats to 247 yards and seven points in the final 51:38 of the game, including 138 second-half yards.

Northwestern State forced Sam Houston State backward on three of those second-half possessions with none being more important than what became the Bearkats' final offensive possession of the game. Three plays after taking possession at the Demons' 33, the Bearkats found themselves punting from the NSU 41 because of

a key play by sophomore linebacker Jomard Valsin.

"Jomard had the sack fumble that they recovered, but it forced them out of field goal range," Laird said. "That was huge. They all made so many other plays by simply running to the football."

From Valsin's late sack fumble to Shemar Bartholomew highlighting NSU's four-interception day with a 96-yard pick-six that gave NSU a 24-21 halftime lead, the Demons' defense set up its offensive counterparts for the coup de grace, putting NSU on a two-game win streak heading into Thursday night's season finale against Stephen F. Austin in the annual Battle for Chief Caddo.

"You look at how the end of the game happened," Laird said. "This is what is beautiful about this win. They punt it to our 1, and Stadford (Anderson) gets about four or five yards on the first carry and we get to the eight before we punted. It wasn't a great punt, but Jomard got the big sack fumble to get them out of field goal range. Then Stadford has 31 yards on that final drive, converting on short yardage. You could hear the offensive line in the huddle on the sideline when Sam Houston was using its timeouts. They knew the situation. They kept saying, 'We need one more first down. We need two more first downs.' To have 110 yards rushing against that group that was giving up around 70 a game, we want to continue that momentum going into the short week."

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Football

11/21/19 6 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs. Stephen F. Austin

### Men's Basketball

12/8/19 3 p.m.  
@Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
vs. LSU

12/21/19 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Lamar

### Women's Basketball

11/22/19 7 p.m.  
@Lubbock, Texas  
vs. Texas Tech

11/18/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. LSU - Shreveport



## Results of last week's schedule

### Football

11/16/19 4 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs Lamar  
W 34-13

### Volleyball

11/14/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Texas A&M - CC  
L 2-3

11/16/19 11 a.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Incarnate Word  
L 1-3

### Basketball

#### Men

11/16/19 1 p.m.  
@New Orleans, Louisiana  
vs. Tulane  
L 52-79

#### Women

11/13/19 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Jackson State  
L 49-66

11/18/19 6 p.m.  
@Monroe, Louisiana  
vs. ULM  
L 54-63





# Keeping the dream alive

## Students march to honor MLK



NSU students at the MLK march on campus Monday. Photo taken by Brianna Corley.

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Decades after Martin Luther King Jr. stood against adversity with his dream, his words and legacy ripple across the nation and touch all aspects of life.

As the U.S. celebrated his memory Monday, students gathered at the Kyser flagpole in the cold for a march organized by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity in King's honor.

Participant Coby McGee,

sophomore, stressed the importance of remembering those who, like King, have laid the foundation for equality.

"Powerful," McGee said. "Every aspect, everything he did just enlightened so many people in so many different ways."

McGee said King's words of unity have become imperative to the political climate of today.

"Despite the situation, despite the circumstances, we all need to rally together," McGee said. "We

need to unite as one."

"He was about no matter what race, what religion, all of us coming together as brothers and sisters and supporting each other and loving each other and being equal together," sophomore Nadia Johnson said.

In keeping with King's own will to act, Johnson believes attending the march honors his dream and drive.

"Martin Luther King was all

See KING, Page 2

## NSU hikes registration fees

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Students budget their finances and time for the semester. Figure out how much they need to work to afford school and bills. It's no different for senior Alisha Bolton.

Starting this semester, NSU hiked fees by \$150 per credit hour over 15 hours, affecting students' plans.

Bolton now has to work more to be able to pay off school.

"I pay everything on my own so since costs went up," Bolton said. "I'm having to have less time with schoolwork."

Patrick Jones, chief financial officer for the office of business affairs, said the reason students were not notified of the increase sooner was because the change was not approved by the board until late December.

"We regret that it happened that way," Jones said.

Jones said the reason for the increase was not specific. It is to help balance the budget for costs such as supplies and utilities.

Even though many of the university's costs have gone up, Jones said the state funding has mostly stayed the same.

"As things go up, we're trying to find ways to keep the doors open," Jones said.

Within the last two years, some universities in Louisiana have started their incremental increase at 13 hours.

"We went with the increase at 16 and above to try to help the students," Jones said.

Frances Conine, dean of students, said the state only pays for about 25% of the cost of educating students, so the rest of the money is raised through fees and outside sources. She also said NSU held

See FEES, Page 2



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### Quote of the Week

"The things that we love tell us what we are."

Thomas Aquinas

**2** Arts & Living: Keeping the dream alive

**3** Viewpoints: Carley McCord

**4** Sports: City land purchase to connect sports park



# Reduce, reuse, recycle fashion



Photo provided by Mary Gaffney.

**Mary Gaffney**  
*Fashion Columnist*

The new year has started, and everything is on fire.

It begs the question: How can I help save the world one piece of clothing at a time? The answer is simple, but it also can be expensive and take a longer time than just browsing the Forever 21 website, laughing at all the hilariously bad pants with “Hot Cheetos” written on the butt.

There are ways that shopping with Mother Earth in mind can help you save a little extra cash on the side too. There’s also a false myth that fashion must be fast and cause damage to the environment, but that is not true. Shopping sustainable brands or thrifting can easily save the polar bears, koala bears or any other type of bear.

Reducing fashion waste helps our world, and it starts with thrifting. I get majority of my favorite pieces from thrift stores or Goodwill because the clothes I find are always unique.

For the colder weather, I found an amazing coat in the Goodwill on South Drive (not sponsored, but how cool would that be?) that I have been wearing religiously since I first got it, even when it’s not cold.

When looking for pieces in

Goodwill, try to think of pieces that you want to score beforehand. Think of clothing that you want to wear in the future or pieces that you could reinvent.

Tip of the day: look through every piece when you’re in the mood to thrift because you will miss really cool pieces. They will not jump out at you. If you’re dedicated to find those rad pieces, put on some music or a podcast to help time pass.

Thrifting doesn’t always have to be in person since there are so many websites that can open new doors to the thrifting world. When thrifting, look for pieces that are reusable and classic, like a white button up shirt or jeans. Vintage jeans are the holy grail of thrift finds.

Recycling and reusing fashion can be a hard thing to do if you’re stuck in a pattern or phase of your life. It can be hard for me to look at clothes I purchased as an emo kid six years ago, but I still find ways to wear the pieces I love even to this day. Changing the accessories, makeup, hair and shoes can shift an entirely different vibe with an outfit.

Pieces that are loved and worn are the most charismatic and unique pieces to find, so go forth and save the polar bears with fashion!

**Fees** Continued from Page 1

off on increasing fees for as long as possible.

“It’s important to me that students understand that us finding money for our students to be able to go to college is paramount to what we do,” Conine said. “We really do care about trying to get funding for our students.”

Conine said the change will not apply to students who are only taking more than 15 hours because of extracurriculars such as band or pom line.

“There is a program written to exempt those classes and those hours,” she said.

At the Jan. 13 Student Government Association meeting, senators decided that the cabinet will be sending a letter to the university administration to express concerns on the lack of communication with the students regarding the fee increase.

*Lara Schales contributed reporting.*

**King** Continued from Page 1

about peaceful protesting,” Johnson said. “Not only saying what you believe in but actually showing up and putting your feet to the pavement and proving it.”

Brittany Broussard, coordinator of NSU’s Center for Inclusion and Diversity, said the march is an imperative part of upkeeping King’s legacy. In her search to describe King’s message, she found it hard to settle on one word.

“Hope,” Broussard said. “Because there’s always hope that it’s going to be better, I mean with work, but it can be better.”

In the context of issues faced today, Broussard also felt it imperative to remember King’s dream was not only about unity but also change.

“If the system needs changing he actually wasn’t afraid to challenge the system,” Broussard said. “Change is difficult and we’re going through a difficult time, but I think if he were here he would understand what was going and be advocating for change.”

## The Current Sauce Editorial Board

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## NSYou

**Do you believe President Trump handles the Iran situation appropriately?**



"I agree with how it was handled. If another country threatens us, I don't see a reason why we should stand by passively."

**Dawson Howie**  
Junior



"I think it's a crazy situation with a ton of history and background. I don't believe it was handled appropriately, though. I think a lot of personal animosity played a role."

**China Young**  
Senior



"I do think it was handled appropriately. President Trump made a statement in retaliation for Iranian threats."

**Tyler Magnano**  
Junior



"While I consider myself educated on world issues, I didn't really pay attention to this issue."

**Sheridan Douglas**  
Junior

# McCord a role model for women in sports media



**She was also a digital media reporter for the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.** Photo by Chris Reich.

**Samantha Clark**  
Editor in Chief

Hard-working. Driven. Passionate. From what I've heard, I can't think of better words to describe Carley McCord.

The death of Carley McCord on Dec. 28 garnered a lot of media attention. She was a sideline reporter for Cox Sports and ESPN, game host for the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans, and a sports reporter for WDSU, to quote her Twitter bio.

She was also a digital media reporter for the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, the place where I was also employed last summer, and the daughter-in-law of LSU

offensive coordinator Steven Ensminger.

While we worked for the same organization, we didn't know each other. Our paths probably physically crossed through work last summer, but it doesn't take a personal relationship with her to see her impact on her family, friends, this university and the world for women in sports media.

After she died, my feeds were full of shock and thoughtful words noting her kindness, energy and passion for what she did.

I didn't realize how many connections we had.

My boyfriend knew her when she was a student at NSU. The people I worked with at the Louisiana

Sports Hall of Fame foundation knew her. All have only positive things to say about her character and her work ethic.

She paved a path that I want to take for my career. She's a role model.

Women make up a small percentage of sports media. In a 2018 study, the Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports gave sports media a failing grade for its gender hiring practices.

On Nov. 19, 2019, Carley posted on Instagram about a student, Kaylee, who stood out to her, and Kaylee shadowed her on Cox Sports Television. She frequently used the hashtag #womeninsports. Carley wanted women to succeed in sports media.

Her story inspires me. It's hard to imagine someone who went to NSU can end up covering sports on ESPN or cover the Saints and Pelicans. Natchitoches is a small town. It can be hard to imagine someone from here making it big.

Carley proved to me that the path I want to take after graduation isn't impossible.

So thank you, Carley. Thank you for showing me my dreams can become a reality. Thank you for showing that hard work pays off. Thank you for being a role model for women in the world for sports media.

I know you made so many people proud during your time here. It was too short, but it left a lasting impact.

## Editorial: Fee hike poorly communicated

Students deserve to know what changes with their fees since we have invested so much money in NSU. Not telling students about the fee increase was a mistake. That may sound blunt, but it is the truth. A student body shouldn't be informed about a fee increase through a student post on social media. That's the university's job.

Not only did most students find out about the fee increase on social media, but some members of the administration also responded through a thread in the comments section. The Editorial Board understands that it was just a quick response to settle down angry students, but those students have a right to be angry.

Comparing the fee increase from other schools to ours doesn't help or ease students' minds. Students are angrier about not knowing about the fee increase than the actual fee increase.

The Editorial Board welcomes student responses of any kind. We would love to hear about how the fee increase is affecting students in any field or major. For one of our editors, her fees have gone up by \$450. To our fellow student body: this is not okay. Hopefully the school has learned a lesson in not informing students when things change and will move forward with a better system to let students know what is happening with the university.

## We're Hiring!

Looking for:

- Designers
- Writers
- Artists
- Business Manager
- Sports Editor
- Photographers

If interested email  
the Current Sauce at  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# City land purchase to connect sports park, NSU

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

The city of Natchitoches will buy a 26-acre tract of land to connect its new sports park to Northwestern State University recreational facilities.

The Natchitoches City Council on Jan. 13 approved the acquisition of the parcel near Parc Natchitoches, the multi-million-dollar sports and recreation complex.

In a joint effort with NSU, the city plans to use the land to expand the existing recreational area.

The sports park, aptly named in honor of the area's French heritage, is expected to open in February.

The facility will host youth baseball, softball and soccer, as well as hiking, fishing and NSU intramural sports.

The property carries a total price tag of \$302,703, according to the city ordinance approving the purchase.

As previously reported by The Current Sauce, the University will receive 40% of revenue from a new 1% tax raise in Natchitoches Economic Development District 3 to manage operations at the park.

Greg Burke, athletic director for NSU, said he is unsure how much money the university will receive but believes any amount will be handed out quarterly.

Burke said there's been an ongoing conversation between the city and the university and called it an example of good partnership.

## Double wins over Nicholls



**Junior Jairus Roberson scored a career-high 24 points as the 5-11 Demons beat Nicholls 73-72 in Thibodaux. The Demons play Stephen F. Austin Wednesday in Prather.** *Photo by Chris Reich.*



**Freshman forward Karyn Ford helps NSU along to a 58-54 win over Nicholls State Jan. 15 at Prather Coliseum. The 5-11 Lady Demons face Southland Conference rival Stephen F. Austin at Nacogdoches Wednesday night.** *Photo by Chris Reich.*

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Women's Tennis

1/25/20 11 a.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex  
vs. LSU-Alexandria

1/25/20 2 p.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex  
vs. LSU-Alexandria

### Men's Basketball

1/22/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Stephen F. Austin

1/25/20 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Southeastern

### Women's Basketball

1/22/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Nacogdoches, Texas  
vs. Stephen F. Austin

1/22/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Southeastern

## Results of last week's schedule

Football

11/21/19 6 p.m.  
@Turpin Stadium  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
L 20-32

Basketball

Men

12/8/19 3 p.m.  
@Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
vs. LSU  
L 59-109

12/21/19 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Lamar  
W 67-61

Women

11/22/19 7 p.m.  
@Lubbock, Texas  
vs. Texas Tech  
L 49-79

11/18/19 6:00 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. LSU - Shreveport  
L 63-68





# NSU players mourn Kobe

## Basketball star remembered as role model



Kobe Bryant, 41, died in a helicopter crash Sunday. Photo by Alexandra Walt, <http://flic.kr/p/w1xzcp>.

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

Northwestern State University basketball players expressed sadness and shock about the death of NBA legend Kobe Bryant.

Retired Los Angeles Laker Bryant, 41, died in a helicopter crash Sunday along with his 13-year-old daughter and seven others, according to media reports.

Brian White, NSU sophomore guard, remembers seeing Bryant play in the first NBA game he attended. White called the former Laker his favorite player and said his first jersey was Bryant's.

White said Bryant was a great person and an inspiration.

"The situation is very tragic," White said.

Trenton Massner, sophomore guard, said athletes like Bryant are why many choose to become basketball players.

"We want to be like them someday or be as good (as them)," Massner said.

Massner said Bryant was a motivation to perform better as players.

"He's one of the hardest workers in the game," Massner said.

Not only was Bryant a good player, Massner said, he was also a good person and father.

C.J. Jones, junior guard, called Bryant's death shocking and said his death reminded him of when Michael Jackson died.

## New senator says NSU 'economic engine' of district

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

This year marks the beginning of a new era for Natchitoches residents as Sen. Louie Bernard starts his first year as state senator for District 31.

Previously held by Republican Gerald Long, District 31 encompasses parts of Rapides, Red River, Winn, Sabine, Grant and Natchitoches parishes. Northwestern State University is the district.



Bernard, a Republican, graduated from Northwestern State University with a degree in political science and history. He said he plans to support the university in every way possible.

"Northwestern is the economic engine of our district," Bernard said.

Prior to winning his Senate seat, Bernard served on the Natchitoches Parish Police Jury in 1976, eventually becoming the jury's administrator. He was clerk of court for Natchitoches Parish from 1992 to 2016.

Although Bernard didn't have the senate seat on his radar following his retirement, he said circumstances came up. One was talk of reapportioning, the process of redrawing district maps.

"A lot of people were concerned that the boundaries of the district may not even include Natchitoches

*See SENATOR, Page 2*



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## Quote of the Week

*"The moment you give up is the moment you let someone else win."*

**Kobe Bryant**

**2 News: Scholarship to honor Carley McCord**

**3 Viewpoints: Debating the smoking age**

**4 Sports: Dear Kobe**



# SGA, administration in talks over fee hike

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

At Monday’s Student Government Association meeting, SGA President Jacob Ellis shared Dean of Students Francis Conine’s response to the SGA cabinet’s concerns about the university’s administration’s handling of the increased registration fee.

In an email responding to a message the cabinet sent Jan. 27, Conine assured Ellis that she, Vice President of Academic Affairs Greg Handel and NSU President Chris Maggio would discuss the message and respond.

In the message, addressed to Conine, Handel and Maggio, SGA’s cabinet said it believes the fee raise was in the best interest of university finances; however, it

asks the administration to officially notify students of the changes via email and include students in future decisions affecting them.

In other business, SGA approved a resolution congratulating Louisiana State University head football coach Ed Orgeron on the university’s victory over the Clemson Tigers at the College Football National Championship game.

The senate also endorsed the induction of Orgeron, an NSU alumnus, into the Long Purple Line, the hall of distinction for former students located in the Friedman Student Union.

Additionally, Ellis appointed the following to their respected posts:

- SGA – Kaden Graves and Kaylynn Semien
- Academic Affairs Commissioner – Senator Tjah Edwards

- Organization Relief Fund – The Current Sauce Viewpoints Editor Thomas Celles
- V.L. Roy Service Day Chair – Senator Lydia Crawford

The Senate approved all appointees.

Vice President Cherish Wilson said a speaker for Black History Month is still being discussed.

Karen Loach, assistant director for the Career Service Center, visited SGA urging students to attend the career fair Feb. 11 in the Student Union Ballroom.

Students interested in seeing potential employers are asked to bring a resume and dress in either business casual or business professional attire.

Anyone attempting to enter the job fair dressed inappropriately will not be allowed to enter. Infor-

mation about the event can be seen at the Career Center’s website.

The Senate discussed at length a proposal to expand the hours of operation at the Wellness, Recreation and Activity Center.

Senators discussed multiple possibilities, including keeping the WRAC open 24 hours and allowing WRAC staff enough time to do their homework as some workers are also students.

Discussion never made it to a vote. The Senate suggested it may operate “polling” areas around campus to allow students the chance to voice their opinions.

Commissioner Elizabeth Coleman said SGA’s budget currently stands at \$45,532.18; the Speaker’s budget is \$94,699.80; and the Organizational Relief Fund budget is about \$36,216.08.

## SGA cabinet letter to administration

January 27, 2020  
Dr. Maggio, Dr. Handel, and Dean Conine:

On behalf of the students at Northwestern State University, the Cabinet of the Student Government Association would like to express our concern with the lack of notification to the student body regarding the University fee increase and the lack of input from the student body through the Student Government Association. While we are confident that the decision was in the best interest of the University’s finances, we think it would have been best that students had been given time to prepare for what can be a significant increase in the cost of attendance for many of them.

Furthermore, the student body is concerned that there wasn’t an official statement made by the University Administration prior to this increase. While it has not been a typical practice to notify

students of every increase in fees, this increase would raise the cost of attendance for a student taking 21 hours by almost \$1000. There is also concern that there has yet to be an official statement from the President of the University. Upon discussion with students, we have found that a statement from the Administration to the students going out before the increase would have softened the blow and would have allowed students better time to prepare themselves financially.

We, the Cabinet of the Student Government Association, respectfully ask that the University Administration send an official statement by email to all students at Northwestern State University explaining the need for this increase and the details of the increase. The Student Concerns Page is only one aspect of communication with our students and represents a very small portion of our student population at NSU. We also ask that in the future, in congruence with the

Shared Governance Agreement between the SGA and the University, the Administration include students in any decision that will affect the student body and proper notice go to the students when these decisions are made, prior to these decisions taking affect.

Please contact us if you would like to meet regarding this issue or if a member of the University Administration would be willing to attend a Student Government Association Senate Meeting to provide more insight and information into this matter. We appreciate the Administration’s willingness to listen to and work with the students at Northwestern State University.

Best regards,  
Jacob A. Ellis  
President

On behalf of the Cabinet of the Northwestern State University Student Government Association

**Senator** Continued from Page 1

or Northwestern,” Bernard said.

He said he was alert to the issue and is determined to keep the city and university in the central part of the district.

In discussing higher education, Bernard said he will constantly work for adequate funding.

Bernard said higher education and healthcare are the only areas cut when the budget isn’t worked out.

“You can’t make Louisiana better if education is not central to the discussion of economic development,” he said.

Continuing to cut education, he said, will “make Louisiana plummet.”

On whether he’ll make efforts to work with Democratic Gov. Jon Bel Edwards while in office, Bernard said it is inconceivable for the legislature and governor to not try and get along.

The senator said he has always been able to work with and listen to others.

Bernard said he is going to the capital to work with everyone who is for making the state and higher education a priority.

“I’m going in there to work with every single one of them, and I hope that a lot of them feel the same way,” Bernard said.

The senator stressed his willingness to call back his constituents.

It is critical and important to him, he said, for the people to have access to their elected officials.

<b>The Current Sauce</b> Editorial Board	<b>Leanna Coy</b> News Editor	<b>Keator Poleman</b> Digital Editor
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# Scholarship to honor Carley McCord

## NSU alumna remembered as supportive, inspiring



**Carley McCord died in a plane crash Dec. 28.**

**Trinity Velazquez**  
*Copy Editor*

The family of Carley McCord, the Northwestern State University alumna who died recently, is working with NSU officials to create a scholarship in her honor.

A 2011 NSU graduate, McCord was killed in a plane crash Dec. 28 in Lafayette. She worked as a sports journalist and digital media reporter.

The scholarship will probably benefit young women pursuing careers in media, according to an NSU spokesperson.

"A member of the development team will work with the McCord family on criteria for the scholarship when it is more appropriate," NSU Director of Development Jill P. Bankston said. "We usually give families a respectable amount of grieving time before we work out the details of the scholarship."

McCord was remembered fondly by NSU community members who knew her.

"She was an amazing and supportive friend who only wanted others to succeed," said NSU photographer Chris Reich, who was friends with McCord when both were students here. "As a coworker she was relentless and one of the hardest working people you will ever meet."

"Carley was also someone who

marched to the beat of her own drum," said Reatha Cox, director of First Year Experience. "When she did something, she did it all out."

McCord was a member of Sigma Sigma Sigma, a presidential ambassador, and Miss Lady of the Bracelet in 2010. She competed in the Miss Louisiana pageant.

"Carley was the kind of person, whether she was giving a tour through the university recruiting office or she was doing a program with her sorority or doing something to engage the students -- Carly was a little bit everywhere," Cox said.

"Her impact is bringing out the best in people," Reich said. She understood networking and using her position for good but never looking for a free hand out."

"She was a very giving person, and she did things her way," Cox said. "She was passionate about

everything she did. I think she left a mark on people. She had a bright future, and I'm glad we got to have a little bit of that sunshine."

"The biggest takeaway from Carley's life should be to help others professionally when possible," Reich said. "Mentor where you can, support friends in their professional endeavors. Use your power and clout, whatever it is, to make the world a better place and help your friends."

"Carley was very inspiring to women of all ages, not only in sports media," Cox said. "Carley was a genuine person who took the time to have a true engagement with everyone that she met."

To donate to the Carley McCord Memorial Scholarship, visit <http://www.northwesternstatealumni.com/donations/carley-mccord-memorial-scholarship> or contact Bankston at [bankstonj@nsula.edu](mailto:bankstonj@nsula.edu) or 318-357-4241.

# Police ID suspect in double homicide

### Staff reports

The Natchitoches Police Department has identified a suspect in a double homicide that took place Monday on Short Seventh Street.

According to a Natchitoches Police Department press release, an arrest warrant has been issued

for Jessie James Petite Jr., who is charged with two counts of first degree murder and two counts of attempted first degree murder.

On Monday at around 10:17 p.m., Natchitoches police officers responded to a disturbance on the 900 block of Short Seventh Street. They found Larry Batiste, 41; Hiram Phillips Jr., 35; and a

female suffering from gunshot wounds.

Batiste and Phillips were pronounced dead from their injuries. The female was transported to the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center and later to a hospital in Shreveport, where she is listed in severe condition.

Petite, of Natchitoches, is

described as a black male, 21, 135 pounds, around 5'7".

Natchitoches police is asking the public for help locating the suspect. If you have information, contact the Natchitoches Police Department at 318-352-8101 or Detective William Connell at 318-238-3911.



POLICE

BLOTTER

1-01-20

Burglary - University Place 2

1-06-20

Theft - LSMSA

1-11-20

Theft - University Place 2

1-12-20

Drug Law Violation - University Place 2

1-13-20

Burglary - University Place 2

1-14-20

Burglary - Dodd Hall

1-15-20

Theft - University Place 2

1-17-20

Vehicle Burglary - Parking Lot 08

1-18-20

Burglary - University Place 1

1-21-20

Hit and Run - Parking Lot 25

1-22-20

Drug Law Violation - University Place 2





# Blast to the past, aka 2019



Try finding outfits that truly make you happy. Photo provided by Mary Gaffney.

**Mary Gaffney**  
Fashion Editor

Last year was a strange one for fashion. It reunited us with our roots, emo or not. VSCO girls and E-girls might be a thing of the past, but 2020 has a lot to offer us when it comes to fashion.

Let's focus on the classics: the most worn of 2019. These are the staples that will always be there no matter what because I would rather die than let low-rise jeans come back into the fashion world.

For me, my 2019 was spent gathering the courage to wear what I actually wanted to wear rather than wearing something because it felt like the safe option. This is the same mindset I want to strut into the new year with. Just because it's late in the game does not mean that you can't change your new year at any time!

If you want to focus your energy on fashion this year, try finding outfits that truly make you happy. Think to yourself: What do I want to wear today? What would make me the happiest? There's no point in fashion if it doesn't make you happy.

2019 was the year of the turtlenecks for me. I found a new love with mom jeans, which means I was finally able to feel comfortable and move around in jeans. For the never-ending cold that seems to have plagued us, mom jeans and turtlenecks are your best friend.

To keep warm but also keep a shape, think layers. Fleece tights or leggings underneath jeans and a tight turtleneck to layer a sweater over can provide maximum warmth.

Oddly enough 2019 was the year of understanding how important a good pair of socks is. Finding a pair of socks that match a color in the outfit can keep your color coordination all throughout the outfit. Socks and heels paired together is a controversial subject, but it definitely helps keep your feet warm.

Textures in an outfit can truly make a difference. I personally love velvet, silk and suede, but I have only found velvet and silk. By meshing different textures, you can easily create a sophisticated look.

With 2020 already here, let's find new ways to love what's in your closet.

## In the flesh

## Live-drawing classes to return to art department

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Drawing class sessions featuring live, nude models are set to return to the art department.

Corbin Covher, assistant professor of sculpture and foundations, brought back the class and will be the instructor when it is offered in fall 2020. He said the program had not been taught in recent years because of its complicated nature.

"It comes with its own set of problems: funding and maturity of students," Covher said.

Despite being faced with issues of fees and finding ways to properly pay models, Covher said the class is an imperative part of a bachelor of fine arts program.

"It's us getting in there and remaining competitive in an industry that it's hard to do that," Covher said.

Covher also attested to the general importance the skills of

life drawing bring those who are art focused.

"The body by itself is vastly different in shape, form and beauty, and it's important to understand that to draw people," Covher said.

This importance has been noted by Haley Summerlin, junior, who has been aware of the absence of life drawing classes in the art program since she first began her education.

"I've been an art major since I can remember," Summerlin said. "Life drawing is definitely something we need more of."

Summerlin noted that though the art department supplies classes which allow students to replicate objects, having a live, nude model allows for sophisticated work that can't be done from a reference photo.

"In proportion classes we switch angles all the time so if you have a flat, two-dimensional reference what can you do with that?" Summerlin said.

Summerlin also hopes to take the class on the other side of the experience.

"I'm actually hoping to volunteer as one of the models," Summerlin said. "I think it would be so much fun. It would be something different in it for me."

Summerlin's excitement for the live drawing class is shared by sophomore Amari Carmouche.

"I think at some point my old drawing teacher might have brought it up, the possibility of having models," Carmouche said. "But not something like this, something concentrated."

Carmouche feels that learning the basics of art, particularly through drawing live models, is integral in order to build a foundation to do greater overall work.

"Most other schools have that class already in the system," Carmouche said. "It's such an important part of traditional art education."

Carmouche is already looking forward to what the class holds in store.

"I'm excited to work with the models," Carmouche said. "Just learning about the human form through drawing it."





# NSU program offers worldwide education



**Zoe Almaraz traveled to Shenzhen University in China last semester.** *Submitted photo.*

**Ruben E. Smith**  
*Contributing Writer*

Northwestern State University students can live, work and study in other countries through the university's International Student Resource Center and Study Abroad department.

Victoria Roderick, a senior criminal justice major, went to the University of Angers in France last spring.

"Having the opportunity to go abroad was one the most amazing experiences I have ever received," Roderick said.

Roderick talked highly of the help NSU faculty provided throughout her time in the program.

She said her time in France would be something she would remember for a lifetime, especially having the chance to go to Paris during spring break.

Roderick said adjusting to the French school system was a bit

difficult at first, but she adapted very well and found classes she could use for her major's requirements here so she wouldn't be behind.

Her advice to any student thinking of going abroad is "ask any question you have," and learn some of the language of the country you would like to study in.

Zoe Almaraz, a criminal justice major with an English minor, studied this past fall at Shenzhen University in China. Almaraz said her time abroad allowed her to learn about all types of culture and people.

"I had a chance to experience so many things that I wouldn't have gotten to had I stayed in America," Almaraz said.

Almaraz took classes in business, which she said could be useful in her career. Her advice to anyone thinking of studying abroad is "to do research" and "to just do it."

"It's a really fun experience, and it's a way to sort of live a different

life for a while," Almaraz said.

Roderick or Almaraz both said they would take the opportunity to study abroad again.

Vivian Pedroza, who works for the International Student Resource Center and Study Abroad, said the best time to study abroad is now.

"NSU sends two or three students every semester for a semester exchange through one of NSU's bilateral agreements or partner institutions abroad," Pedroza said.

"Seeing how people from another country live, work, study is life changing," Pedroza said. "The career opportunities are broadened, language skills are sharpened, new friendships are formed and the student experiences an overall personal development."

Study abroad programs at NSU are available to all majors.

"For exchange programs (one to two semesters abroad) the student has to be in junior/senior classification" Pedroza said. "For summer programs for foreign

languages the student must have completed at least 24 credit hours by the spring semester, successfully completed the language prerequisite, have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and be a full-time student," Pedroza said.

Dr. Telba Espinoza-Contreras, who runs the program, emphasized that tuition is paid through NSU while students study abroad and that housing is often less expensive. The program also offers summer language programs in France and Mexico.

"Start inquiring, planning and saving at least one year before the semester or the time you want to go abroad," Espinoza-Contreras said. "Talk to your academic advisor and come visit the ISRC as soon as you have the interest to study abroad so that together we can start planning your experience abroad."

For more information, go to [www.nsula.edu/international](http://www.nsula.edu/international), visit 227 Russell Hall or email Espinoza-Contreras at [contrerast@nsula.edu](mailto:contrerast@nsula.edu).



# 'Glimpse of Shreveport' vintage photo collection on exhibit at Watson Library



**Michelle Packard Chopin, left, and NSU students Taylor Burnett, Mikalyn Russell and Taylor Trombley examine vintage photographs from the exhibition.**

**Leah Jackson**

*NSU Director of Public Information and Media Relations*

**NATCHITOCHES** – A collection of vintage photographs that depict business and industry in Shreveport in 1918 is on exhibit in the Cammie G. Henry Research Center at Northwestern State University. “A Glimpse of Shreveport,” discovered, organized and curated by NSU alum Ed Chopin, will run through March and gives viewers

an unstaged look at the working side of the city a century ago.

At an opening reception Jan. 23, Chopin discussed how he rescued the collection from the trash while helping friends move out of their house in the early 1970s. The pictures were part of a large scrapbook created by the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce to bring more business to the city. There were originally 400 photos in the book but many were lost before Chopin discovered the scrapbook.

“It’s phenomenally interesting to look at working conditions 100 years ago,” Chopin said. “The things I recognized and appreciated were the lack of safety equipment, blacks and whites working together side by side and the children at work.”

The Shreveport Chamber of Commerce has no records of how or why the book was created other than to highlight the progressiveness of the city. Notes in the scrapbook boast of 37 miles of paved roads in the city, information on rail lines, infrastructure and manufacturing capabilities.

The photographer’s identity remains a mystery but Chopin said he or she knew their craft well. He believes the photographer used glass plate negatives and contact prints.

“The depth of field is phenomenal,” he said. “Some pictures were taken in offices and you can look through the windows and get an idea of which building the photo was taken from.”

Clocks and calendars can be read clearly in offices equipped with telephones, switchboards, manual typewriters and spittoons. Other photos depict a meat cooler at Wilson Co., the dry goods sales department at the Cupples-Loneragan Co. and the pump room and storage vaults at the Shreveport Ice Plant.

One business, Allen Millwork, is still in operation though it was purchased by another company about 10 years ago. Chopin said he took the pictures to the company manager who looked at the photos and said, “We still use those carts.” The company loaned one of the carts to be included in the collection’s exhibition at the Meadows Museum in Shreveport two years ago.

Chopin worked with NSU Assistant Archivist Sharon Wolff to install the collection.

“The candid nature of the pictures makes them a unique and valuable window into everyday working life, both blue and white collar, in the early 20th century,” Wolff said.

Chopin earned a degree in industrial education with a minor in journalism at Northwestern State in 1971 and a master’s in industrial technology in 1978. He retired after teaching 46 years in public schools and at Bossier Parish Community College. His wife, Michelle Packard Chopin, is a 1978 NSU graduate.

The Cammie G. Henry Research Center is located on the third floor of NSU’s Eugene P. Watson Memorial Library. Hours are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-noon Friday. Information is available at <https://library.nsula.edu/melrose/>.

## McLaren clarinet recital set for Feb. 5

**David West**

*NSU Director of Communications*

**NATCHITOCHES** – A faculty recital featuring Malena McLaren on clarinet and Chialing Hsieh on piano will be held at Northwestern State University on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Magale Recital Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

The recital will feature works by Gerald Finzi, Miguel Yuste and Sergei Rachmaninoff.

McLaren is the department chair of music and professor of clarinet at Northwestern State. She is a D’Addario artist and has performed orchestrally and as a chamber musician throughout the United States, Mexico, England, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, En-

gland and Spain. She performs regularly in solo and chamber music recitals and is a core member of the Rapides Symphony Orchestra.

McLaren was invited to perform and present her research at the 2015 ClarinetFest in Madrid, Spain and at the 2018 ICA ClarinetFest in Belgium. She was also asked to adjudicate the Young Artist Competition at this year’s ClarinetFest in Reno, Nevada. Her scholarly works include two articles in the International Journal, The Clarinet.

In July 2007 she received the second-place prize in the International Clarinet Association’s Research Presentation Competition at the ClarinetFest in Vancouver, Canada. McLaren has performed in recital at the 2008, 2010, 2011,

2012, and 2014 International ClarinetFest conferences and as a member of Trio de Llano at the 2009 National Flute Association Conference in New York City. In 2011 she received the Magale Endowed Professorship to perform and conduct archival research in Madrid, Spain. She served as coordinator of the International Clarinet Association Annual Research Presentation Competition from 2014-2016 and is the current Louisiana State Chair for the ICA.

McLaren received the Bachelor in Music Education and Master of Music degree in Clarinet Performance at The University of New Mexico where she studied with Keith Lemmons. Malena also studied with James Gillespie at the University of North Texas, where

she received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Clarinet Performance with a minor in musicology.

An avid performer of contemporary music, Hsieh is devoted to promoting new piano solo and chamber works. Hsieh has been a featured pianist on seven CDs for the Centaur, Innova, Enharmonic and Ballpark labels. She joined NSU’s faculty in 2016 as an assistant professor of collaborative piano. In the summer, she is the piano instructor at the Lutheran Summer Music Festival and Academy and the Sounds of Summer Institute. Hsieh earned her bachelor’s degree from the National Taipei University of the Arts and a master’s and doctorate in piano performance at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music.



## NSYou

### What is your favorite memory of Kobe?



"My favorite memory has definitely got to be when Kobe hit the game winning buzzer beater against the Miami Heat in 2009."

**Dawson Howie**  
Junior



"My favorite memory of Kobe was when he was playing the Charlotte Bobcats and he was missing every single shot he took during warmups. He called a maintenance guy over and said, 'Your rim is too short, it's off by about a quarter of an inch.' After they measured it turns out he was exactly right. He ended up dropping 40 that night."

**Jake Bankston**  
Senior



"When I was a kid and would sit and watch him on the court, he was my role model. When he was on a talk show, everything he said was so spiritual and motivational. I genuinely felt like I knew him for real."

**Zay Rogers**  
Senior



"When Kobe and Gianna were sitting courtside at the Nets game and he was explaining basketball to her. It was such a sweet moment between a father and his daughter that is just beginning to love the game like he did."

**Sarahjane Ladut**  
Grad Student

## Literary adaptation is not the enemy

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Whether the biggest novel sensation of the year is being adapted for a screenplay or a new X-Men movie is set to premiere, critics await with snobbish distaste and fans prepare to be scorned. Some people aren't too fond of adaptations. Yet adaptation has been important to artists from the beginning of expression.

Adaptation is not the enemy of creativity, but the embodiment of it.

After the release of "Thor: Ragnarök," fans complained about the use of the Planet Hulk timeline while the very mythos for Thor revolves around Norse mythology. The problem was bad adaptation. Hela is Thor and Loki's sister rather than Loki's daughter alongside many other details which disregard the importance and prominence of adaptation.

Details taken from Greek heroic myths, fairytales and other ancient texts still touch every aspect of narrative storytelling and have come to form endless stories. Even when adaptations are completely unfaithful to the original, they add depth and distinction to the fictional world that had already been established.

No matter how horrible the adaptation may be, it can bring fans of the original story together to review it in a whole new way.

Adaptations and source material coexist to create something new and while some weren't great, such as the infamous "Game of Thrones" ending, others have been praised for bettering the material as a whole.

One of the most incredible cases is "Ghost Stories," a Japanese cartoon that absolutely bombed in its home country. After it was licensed to be dubbed in English for the U.S., the cast and writers were given a simple rule: Aside from reworking the story and renaming the characters, do whatever you want to make the show successful. What emerged from a bombed release was an extremely successful black comedy parody.

Adaptation is essential to the creative world. It is the reason stories such as "Little Women," "Frankenstein" and "One Thousand and One Nights" are constantly being readapted in numerous ways.

No matter how seemingly finite, there is always more story to tell.

## Demon Debate

### Should the smoking age be 21?

*In December, President Donald Trump signed a law that raises the age to buy tobacco products to 21. The law also applies to electronic cigarettes.*

## Smoking puts everyone at risk

**Keator Poleman**  
Digital Editor

If you pay any attention to the news, you'll notice how the smoking age gets brought up every couple of years or so. And every time, someone mentions that Americans can serve in the military at 18 and vote.

While the argument is constantly used, it is a moot point. Yes, currently, this is how the law is set up. But laws can change, and laws can be altered to fit the current climate.

America used to have laws allowing smoking in certain public areas like airplanes, but they have since changed.

The law does not have to remain the same simply because it is all we have known. Laws are not stagnant.

The government changed the law on public smoking to begin with because the public's health was at risk.

People have had enough with the side effects of smoking and did something about it. People argued and brought their cases to those who can make the legal changes.

Now, this is a country built on freedom to choose the path one wishes to take. However, there are limits on how far one's personal freedom can go before it conflicts with the rights of others.

Smoking is a health risk and may lead to cancer and death. What's worse, manufacturers of electronic cigarettes are attracting young people by using flavored products.

These companies are ruining these children's lives, and all they care about is money.

Smoking is a public health hazard and ought to be done away with in its entirety. Even so, it is up to the courts and legislature to decide.

While many will die and be hurt before tobacco is ever outlawed, the only way to make real change is to push for change and allow the process to take its course.

We are a country of laws, and until those laws are changed, we must respect them. For now, the law stands that no one under 21 may legally purchase tobacco products.

## Your life is yours to live

**Samantha Clark**  
Editor in Chief

The new law is supposed to benefit the health of younger people, but the government should not make that choice for them.

We're all familiar with the sound bite, "If people can go to war for their country, they should be allowed to smoke." I agree with this reason, but let's talk about others.

It's not the government's decision to make a legal adult make healthy choices. Many states were threatened by a 1984 federal law saying federal highway funds would be taken away if they didn't change the drinking age from 18 to 21.

This led to unhealthy binge

drinking on the part of people age 18 to 20 because alcohol became a taboo thing that people wanted to drink because they weren't supposed to.

Isn't it likely something similar will happen with smoking?

The law states the adult age is 18. This means 18-year-olds can vote, join the military and consent to major surgery. If an 18-year-old can weigh the risks of surgery, they should be deemed capable of doing the same for smoking.

Your life is yours to live. Whether you think smoking is a good or bad decision, individuals should get to choose what they do to their bodies, and not let the government regulate it.



# Dear Kobe

## Reflections on a basketball legend



**Kobe Bryant inspired one of my greatest passions.** Photo by Alexandra Walt, <http://flic.kr/p/v4FabF>

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor

Right after my 12th birthday in 2009, I convinced my grandma to drive me to GameStop and let me get a game for my new Xbox 360. She agreed on the condition that she approve the game that I got.

When we got there, I made a beeline for games like “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare” and “Assassin’s Creed II” and tried to convince her these were age appropriate.

Granny, a women’s high school basketball coach in her prime, was much more interested in the giant poster of “NBA 2K10” on the wall and told me I could only get one of the others if I played that one too.

At that point, I had never played sports and was barely interested in them. When I looked at the giant poster of Kobe Bryant holding out his jersey and yelling, I was seeing for the first time someone who would inspire one of my greatest passions.

Within a few days of playing, I had made it a habit to try different dribble moves and shots as Kobe in “2K” and then run outside to try to imitate them. I remember making

my grandpa film my jump shot, comparing it to Kobe’s and doing it again and again.

The next year, I signed up for the junior high basketball team. Turns out, I was really, really bad and unathletic on top of that. But I loved every second of it. After practice, I would go right back to my room and turn on “2K” and tell myself I was a little bit closer to becoming as good as Kobe. Obviously, that didn’t happen, but it sounded really good at the time.

As time went on, other “2K” games came out and other NBA players became my favorite, mainly Michael Jordan and LeBron James. I didn’t forget about Kobe, though. He became a staple both in the gym and in the classroom.

The guys always yelled his name as we shot anything towards a hoop, whether it was a basketball or a paper ball in a trashcan. It got to the point where most of us refused to throw things away normally without at least attempting a jump shot and saying “Kobe!” Memorably, I was once assigned detention for attempting a shot during class and missing the trash can and hitting the teacher.

Throughout high school, our basketball team had several coaches. One of them was obsessed with Kobe. Before every game, he would print out a quote or story about Kobe and leave it in the locker room as a sort of inspiration. Most of the time, inspirational quotes aren’t really inspirational at all, but something about reading those words fired me up every time.

I didn’t play much, but I got really hype on the bench and during practices. I was determined that if I ever got an opportunity, I was going to prove that I had just as much heart as Kobe. That year, I got two concussions from diving for loose basketballs, a trip to the emergency room for trying to practice with pneumonia and the “Hustle Award” from my team.

There are dozens of small stories like this throughout my life and probably most people my age. Kobe was the type of person and player to inspire millions of fans and an entire generation of basketball players. Kobe was great at the sport before I was born, to the point where it seems like he was always there.

When I heard the news about his death on Sunday, it was completely unbelievable. I sat in front of a television and scrolled through Twitter for hours waiting for any news that original reports were false.

When I realized that none were coming, it felt like something punched me in the chest. Two days later and it is still something that hits me every time I remember and makes me sick to my stomach.

Dear Kobe, I don’t play basketball as much as I used to, but I already know I’m going to teach my kids how to ball like you taught me. Hopefully I’ll be able to sneak in a few life lessons along the way.

### GAME SCHEDULE

#### Women’s Track and Field

1/31/20 12:30 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston G5 & Mid-Major Invitational

#### Men’s Track and Field

1/31/20 12:30 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston G5 & Mid-Major Invitational

#### Women’s Tennis

2/1/20 12 p.m.  
@Denton, TX  
vs. North Texas

#### Men’s Basketball

1/29/20 7 p.m.  
@New Orleans, LA  
vs. UNO

2/1/20 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Central Arkansas

#### Women’s Basketball

1/29/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. UNO

2/1/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Central Arkansas

### Results of last week’s schedule

#### Women’s Tennis

1/25/20 11 a.m.  
@Lady Demon Complex  
vs. LSU-Alexandria  
W 6-1

1/25/20 2 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Complex  
vs. LSU-Alexandria  
W 7-0

#### Basketball

#### Men

1/22/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
L 62-69

1/25/20 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Southeastern  
L 81-84

#### Women

1/22/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Nacogdoches, Texas  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
L 40-89

1/22/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Southeastern  
L 56-72





# Officials: Dorm security upgrades coming

**Keator Poleman**  
Digital Editor

Dozens of cameras are to be installed at the University Place I and II dormitories, Student Government Association members learned at their meeting Monday night. Stephanie Dyjack, Campus Living Villages general manager, said the order for 81 cameras was made a year ago, not in response to recent incidents.

Dyjack and campus police officials were at the meeting to brief SGA about campus safety concerns. Lights will also be added to both dorm buildings, she said.

One issue both police and housing officials stressed was the need for cooperation between the university, students and campus security in keeping the campus safe.

The speakers cautioned students to refrain from spreading false information online and to not believe every suspected incident heard over social media.

Speaking on a recent burglary, Chief Craig Vercher said the student left their door and window unlocked, lights on and valuables in clear view.

During another incident, a burglar went inside the dorms of



(From left: Campus Living Villages General Manager Stephanie Dyjack, University Police Chief Craig Vercher and Cpt. Wesley Harrel.) Officials brief SGA on security concerns at their meeting on Monday. Photo by Keator Poleman.

four students and stole from them while they were in their rooms, Vercher said.

Vercher and Capt. Wesley Harrel said students should be mindful of whom they allow into the dorms and report each guest to student housing so officials know who's on campus.

On officer response time, Vercher said university police arrived on two separate burglaries in 29 and 59 seconds, respectively.

Currently, the university only sends out emergency Purple Alerts when lives and the university could be at risk, Vercher said. University

police rely on Northwestern State University's media teams to get reports of burglaries or other non-life-threatening crimes, he added.

Vercher and Dyjack said they are looking into services to alert students of future non-emergency incidents. Two ideas in mind are an app-based report system and a similar service to Purple Alert, they said.

Dyjack said she is examining whether the armed guard currently on night watch at University Place II is adequate, given the multiple entrances and exits on the premises and lack of security personnel.

Even with added security, students should still make sure their property is secured and be mindful of suspicious persons, the speakers said.

The speakers said they don't want to keep students from having guests on university grounds, but they do want to make sure the campus is safe.

In other business, the Senate proposed two resolutions:

- Congratulating Reatha Cox for being named the 2020 University of Louisiana System Staff Person of the Year.

- Recognizing Sodexo for food service improvements.

Both resolutions will be discussed at the SGA meeting Monday.

In the Senate forum, SGA approved "Black Lives Matter? Always Have: The History of the Movement that Preceded BLM" as the theme for its Black History Month event. The event will discuss the history of African-Americans in the United States up to the Black Lives Matter movement.

Senators continued their debate on extending operating hours for the Wellness, Recreation, Activity Center. No final decisions were made.

See OFFICIALS, Page 4

## POLICE BLOTTER

**1/25/20**

Theft  
University Place 1  
OPEN

**1/26/20**

Dating Violence  
University Columns  
ARREST MADE

**1/27/20**

Theft  
WRAC  
OPEN



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce

## Quote of the Week

*"Whatever we believe about ourselves and our ability comes true for us."*

**Susan L. Taylor**

- 2 Arts and Living: Dance concert to explore complexity of time
- 3 Viewpoints: No such thing as the average black girl
- 4 Sports: Women's basketball head coach resigns



# How to dress when depressed



**Getting dressed in the morning shouldn't be an exhausting activity.** Photo by Emily Talbot.

**Mary Gaffney**  
*Fashion Columnist*

Look, I can't even tell you how many times I've laid in bed, not wanting to move or think, much less go to class in a cute outfit. The idea of throwing on leggings, an oversized shirt and sneakers enters my mind, but I stop.

Getting dressed in the morning shouldn't be an exhausting activity. It should be done with excitement and a fresh mind, ready to try new things. Breaking out of the fashion bubble really helps to get my mind moving and ready for the day. So when I'm getting bored of the usual mom jeans, sweaters and Doc Martens, I bust out a dress.

Dresses are known to be worn during fancy occasions or when you want to impress someone, but outfits with dresses are honestly the easiest outfits to put together. There are so many ways to wear a dress, so get cracking!

It depends on the day, but I love mixing it up and throwing on a sundress. Those summer colors and prints on colder, darker days

honestly just cheer me up. I am definitely affected by the lovely seasonal depression, and wearing those brighter colors helps me realize that there is summer at the end of this lonely and frigid winter that will not go away.

Because it's so cold out, I do need to layer up with my summer dresses so I don't become a popsicle. I do that in a number of ways, and the opportunities are pretty much limitless.

I love to throw tights, socks and a turtleneck underneath my dress to keep a nice tight layer of warmth sealed in. Getting the colors to all match and having your dress stand out really help amp up the outfit.

With turtlenecks, shirts or sweaters, you can wear your dress as a skirt and tie the shirt in the front to give it that nice field day in middle school call back. I also love to make my shirts look like their cropped by tying it in the back, tucking in the excess of the shirt and hiding the little flap.

Tucking your dress into jeans or a skirt also can change the whole look of the outfit. It can change

the whole vibe of the dress, and you'll feel extremely accomplished by wiggling your dress into jeans without creating lumps of fabric. It helps downplay the dress and make it look like a shirt, creating a new favorite wardrobe piece in your closet.

With a skirt, it can create a polished look that seems effortless and stylish. Just find colors and patterns that can mix and match, no matter how crazy it could look. With pattern come new ideas and looks. Dressing down a dress is an easy way of getting the best use out of your closet. Simply take a dress that you love and instead of pairing it with heels and a purse, try it on with sturdy boots or sneakers to bring the look down. Small details in the accessories can help downplay a dress, like a simple choker and earrings to bring a little flare to your dressed-down dress. Wearing dresses doesn't have to be a hassle or for special events. Dresses can truly make you look put together instantly, so go on Demons and go play dress-up!

# Dance concert to explore complexity of time

**Brianna Corley**  
*Arts and Living Editor*

Debuting Feb. 12 at the Fine Arts Auditorium in the A.A. Fredericks Arts Center, the dance-focused "Moving Through Time" aims to entertain and provoke.

"Moving Through Time" will explore time in all capacities – spending it, wasting it and never getting it back.

Dancers will perform in styles including tap, ballet and modern.

"Each of the choreographers are faculty here," Jared Doster, show choreographer and assistant professor of dance, said. "We all came together and decided on a common theme which is time and moving through time."

Emmanuel Dunn, senior and tap performer, noted that the collaborative nature of "Moving Through Time" also expands to its dancers.

"It's been a collaboration with the teacher rather than her just choreographing something for us

and giving us something to learn," Dunn said. "We've actually been choreographing it together."

Helping develop the tap piece rather than simply taking the instructor's notes has made Dunn feel more creative and thoughtful in his performance.

Dunn said the concert's themes will cause the audience to think more deeply about dance and its importance in daily life.

"Each of our dancers will be doing different styles of tap and embody different people who were famous like the tap greats," Dunn said. "People [can] see how dance has progressed over time and the roots and where it started to where it [is] now."

Maci Brunt, a senior who will perform contemporary ballet, modern and contemporary modern, felt the incredible versatility which comes with the theme of time.

"Each piece means something different," Brunt said.

Brunt noted the performers only have eight rehearsals for each piece

before the show debuts. That's a challenge, she said, particularly when finding the tone for each piece and the production as a whole.

Brunt hopes audiences will "feel something through our movement," she said. "As dancers that's all we can really ask."

"Moving through Time" is a collaborative effort between Doster and theater and dance faculty members Brett Alan Garfinkel, Crystal Lewis, Rebecca Morgan and Kirstin Riehl.

"Moving Through Time" will be performed Feb. 13, 14 and 15 in Fredericks Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. with a 2 p.m. show Feb. 15. Adults tickets cost \$15, and children and senior tickets cost \$12. Admission is free for all Northwestern State University; Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts; and Bossier Parish Community College students with a current ID and sticker.

## The Current Sauce Editorial Board

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# NSYou

## What's your favorite workout?



"Definitely basketball. I love going to the WRAC and shooting around and playing pickup."

**David Johnson**  
Super Senior



"My favorite workout is probably Insanity with Skyler Martignetti because she is really good at motivating people, and it always gives me a great endorphin boost."

**Alexis Balbuena**  
Senior



"I do stadiums around the basketball court. Going up and down the stairs and then running around the track is really tough and helps me keep in shape."

**Samantha Sims**  
Grad Student



"I love to run! Currently I'm training for a 10K in a few days."

**Tyler Magnano**  
Junior

## There is no such thing as the average black girl

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Copy Editor

Walking out of Starbucks about a week ago, I passed three black women. I made eye contact with one and smiled but she didn't acknowledge my existence. I thought to myself, "OK, rude much? I'm glad I don't have that kind of black girl attitude."

Woah. Hold on.

I am a black woman.

How could I think something like that when I have done the exact same thing? Yet people always want to compliment how kind I appear, or they thank me for saying ma'am or sir.

It brought me back to when I wrote a column in an earlier issue about how I don't talk black. After I wrote that piece I felt on top of the world. I was getting so much positive feedback, and people were beginning to question how they judge others' talking. I was starting so many new conversations that I

stopped listening to the ones within myself.

My column was about how I am black no matter how I speak, and how I shouldn't be treated differently from the next black woman because there is no difference between us. I don't know when I started stereotyping black women, but I surely have brought myself back down to reality. I'm disappointed and angry knowing I thought I was a better black woman than my beautiful dark-skinned sisters.

After I wrote that piece, I started thinking that I was different from the average black woman because of how I talk and how my skin is lighter. The encounter at Starbucks was a reality check.

There is no such thing as the average black woman because we are all unique. Saying otherwise is offensive.

There are ranges of identities in the black community, but when this range is reduced to a stereotype

with a single skin color, hairstyle or diction, everyone loses.

When I think of an average black woman, I think of Ruby Bridges, Maya Angelou and Michelle Obama. I imagine Oprah Winfrey winning her Emmy or Gayle King being composed and in control in interviews.

If I describe the average black woman, I say she is educated, driven, powerful, courageous, outspoken, and an inspiration to not just black women, but all women. She wears her natural hair without fear, she shakes the ground when she walks, and she leaves no room when she sways her hips because there is no space for anyone to walk beside her.

I refuse to be labeled as special or different from the powerful, wise and beautiful women I am lucky enough to share a race with.

Truthfully, I am not half the woman that the average black woman is, but I sure hope to be one day.

## It's too late to just plant trees

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor

In October 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a statement claiming that we had approximately 12 years to fundamentally alter human society in order to limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees Celsius. A year and a half later, no progress has been made towards this goal.

To be completely blunt, there are still people and politicians out there who fervently believe that climate change is not even real, and if it is, it's certainly not the fault of humans.

It's becoming more and more clear that there is no possible way humanity will manage to stem the tide of climate change in the 10 remaining years we have until IPCC's deadline. If people can't even agree that climate change is real, how can we manage to stop it on a societal level?

Scientists have been aware of climate change since 1896, when Svante Arrhenius first published his research on the effects of coal burning. However, the issue was not taken especially seriously until 1988, when IPCC was established to directly research and discover solutions to the looming climate change.

Throughout its 32-year history,

IPCC has published several reports detailing the danger of global warming. Despite these credible warnings, we have made little to no progress in mitigating the crisis.

Why is this? Obviously, pollution is the main culprit, as greenhouse gas emissions are at the highest level they've ever been, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. However, there are plenty of underlying reasons for this increase, often called the Great Acceleration.

According to Andrew Revkin, reporting for a 2018 National Geographic article, it's a combination of many factors including lack of research, industrial influence on politics and the difficulty of regulation enforcement. These contribute to the problem, but the single largest problem when it comes to combatting climate change is none of these.

One of the biggest challenges facing the crusade against climate change is global inequality. Clean energy is difficult to produce without developed infrastructure and is only widely available in rich nations. At the same time, rich nations can afford to mitigate damage done by global warming.

But developing nations do not share the same abilities. These nations cannot afford to worry about climate change when their focus is on acquiring basic economic necessities and infrastructure that devel-

oped nations have had for decades.

Additionally, the same nations are also much more vulnerable to the effects of global warming. According to research, Bangladesh's GDP per capita has been reduced by 12% compared to what it would have been without global warming, and Sudan's and Niger's were reduced by 20% each.

This furthers their inability to swap out fossil fuels. Sweeping changes to the economy are not possible without public interest and funding.

The problem facing our society is environmental, economic and political. Until we can solve all three aspects, we can kiss our climate goodbye. We're past the point where planting trees can fix our problems.

Until global inequality is mitigated, humanity won't be able to be on the same page in regards to climate issues. Until politicians in developed nations, which issue the most pollution currently, stop allowing the fossil fuel industry to influence them, we will not be able to create solutions to mitigate the damage caused so far.

None of these things will happen in the 10 and a half years remaining until IPCC's deadline. We better hope that there will one day be a technological solution to reverse climate change because we don't have a shot at stopping it any time soon.



# Women's basketball head coach resigns



Northwestern State University women's basketball coach Jordan Dupuy has resigned. Photo by Chris Reich.

## From submitted and staff reports

Northwestern State University women's basketball coach Jordan Dupuy has resigned and will be placed on leave for the remainder of his contract, which expires on April 30.

According to a Jan. 26 press release, "a mutual decision was reached between Dupuy and the NSU administration to move in

another direction that would be in the best interest of the program."

The announcement came after the Lady Demons' 72-56 loss on Jan. 25 to Southeastern Louisiana at Prather Coliseum. That defeat dropped NSU to 5-13 overall and 2-7 in Southland Conference play.

Dupuy was in his fourth season as the Lady Demons head coach, compiling a 36-60 overall record.

Associate head coach Aaron A.

Swinson will serve as the team's interim head coach and will hold that position through the remainder of the 2019-20 season.

The Lady Demons play Wednesday against Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas.

Greg Burke, director of NSU athletics, declined to comment.

According to the press release, the university will have no further comment.

## We're Hiring!

Looking for:

- Designers
- Writers
- Artists
- Business Manager
- Sports Editor
- Photographers

If interested email the Current Sauce at [thecurrentsauce@gmail.com](mailto:thecurrentsauce@gmail.com)

## OFFICIALS

From Page 1

During reports, SGA President Jacob Ellis congratulated the SGA for its work during Leadership NSU.

Ellis also announced V.L. Roy Service Day will be held on March 14.

The search is ongoing for an SGA representative for University Programming Council.

Treasury Commissioner Elizabeth Coleman released the current budget.

•SGA's budget stands at \$45,981.85

•The Speaker's budget is at \$59,787 but will drop after calculating the cost of Leadership NSU

•Organizational Relief Fund is at about \$38,000

Student Affairs Commissioner Kristen Prejean said her department is looking into:

•Creating bike racks by Watson Memorial Library

•Getting Safe Spring Break ready

•Working on a Demon Discount program

•Discussing operating hours with the WRAC

Two new senators were added at Monday's meeting.

Ellis nominated Darrin Nixon and Alaina Parham for the positions. Both were approved by the Senate.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Softball

2/8/20 9 a.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Umass-Lowell

2/8/20 11 a.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Valpo

### Women's Tennis

2/8/20 12 p.m.  
@Lafayette, LA  
vs. UL Lafayette

2/9/20 11 a.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. University of Houston

### Men's Basketball

2/5/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Abilene Christian

2/8/20 7 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston Baptist

### Women's Basketball

2/5/20 5:30 p.m.  
@Abilene, TX  
vs. Abilene Christian

2/8/20 2 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston Baptist

## Results of last week's schedule

### Tennis

2/1/20 12 p.m.  
@Denton, TX  
vs. North Texas  
L 2-5

### Track and Field

1/31/20 12:30 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston G5 & Mid-Major Invitational

#### Men

1 Event Champion

#### Women

1 Event Champion

### Basketball

#### Men

1/29/20 7 p.m.  
@New Orleans, LA  
vs. UNO  
W 82-74

2/1/20 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Central Arkansas  
L 71-79

#### Women

1/29/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. UNO  
L 63-77

2/1/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Central Arkansas  
L 44-51





# Students respond to Trump acquittal



President Donald J. Trump receives a standing ovation as he arrives to deliver remarks to the nation in response to his acquittal in the United States Senate impeachment trial Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020, in the East Room of the White House. Photo from Flickr.com.

## Keator Poleman

### Digital Editor

Northwestern State University students' reactions varied regarding President Donald Trump's acquittal Feb. 5.

The Republican-led U.S. Senate voted 52-48 not to remove Trump from office following his impeachment by the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives. The impeachment hearings involved weeks of debate on whether the president obstructed justice and abused the power of his office.

Vanessa Upton, sophomore, said she supported the verdict. As a Republican and Trump

supporter, Upton said she would have supported acquittal even if someone other than Trump had faced similar treatment.

Courteny Cedotal, sophomore, said while she has heard about the news, she has not been following up enough to say much about it.

Jasmine Howard, junior, said while she feels Trump should be removed, Democrats could have waited until the election to defeat Trump instead of trying to impeach him. Howard also said Vice President Mike Pence would have been a worse option than the president had the Senate voted to remove Trump.

Louisiana's senators, both

Republicans, voted to acquit Trump.

"Our founders did not intend impeachment to be used this way," Sen. John Kennedy said in a prepared statement. "I believe Speaker Pelosi's attempt to normalize impeachment and to turn it into a routine political weapon was a mistake. In fact, it was reckless. A country as great as ours deserves better, and so do her people."

"Congress must now work together to solve the issues concerning Americans, like lowering the cost of medication and ending surprise medical billing," said Sen. Bill Cassidy, a physician.

## Pike to host event for sick member

### Leanna Coy

#### News Editor

When Northwestern State University student Connor Zaldivar was diagnosed with synovial sarcoma, a rare form of cancer, his fraternity brothers knew they wanted to take action to help him. Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity will be holding Pikes for a Cure on Thursday, Feb. 13 at Cane River Brewing Company to benefit the American Cancer Society.

"We started Pikes for a Cure to show our brother we care and support him," Pi Kappa Alpha president Kyler Burns said. Burns said the fraternity hopes to raise awareness of the severity of how cancer can affect a college student. Zaldivar has been receiving treatment in Houston since October, Burns said.

Tyler Magnano, external vice president of Pi Kappa Alpha, said there are two different types of tickets available. The \$55 ticket, Magnano said, comes with dinner. The dinner includes a salad, entrée, side, dessert, water and tea. There is also a \$20 ticket available that does not come with dinner but will still grant access to the brewery and live music. Magnano said beer will also be available for purchase through the brewery.

Magnano said Zaldivar's situation has hit close to home.

"It brings to surface the fact that this could happen to anyone around you, no matter what stage of life they are in," Magnano said. "It also makes me appreciate and value the time I spend with everyone in my fraternity more deeply."

Behr Behrendsen, member of Pi Kappa Alpha, said that when Zaldivar's condition was first announced to the fraternity last semester, a collective feeling of shock filled the room.

"This event is a result of that concern," Behrendsen said.

The event will last from 6-8 p.m. with the buffet opening at 6:30 p.m. To purchase tickets, become a sponsor or make a donation, visit <https://my.crowdfunder.co/8mvl2a>



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## Quote of the Week

"Your story is what you have, what you will always have. It is something to own."

Michelle Obama

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**6** Viewpoints: Valentine's Day Debate

**8** Sports: Tyler Smith



# Student work highlighted in New Media Showcase

**Leanna Coy**  
*News Editor*

The New Media Showcase will open on Feb. 13 in Orville J. Hanchey Gallery and will be on display there until Feb. 27. The ceremony and awards presentation will be on March 3 from 4-6 p.m. in the Varnado Hall ballroom.

The showcase features photography and video from students, faculty and alumni of the Department of New Media, Journalism and Communication Arts.

New Media faculty member Emily Zering, codirector of the showcase, said this year will be more of a three-dimensional experience than in years past.

Zering said some of the submissions will be displayed on easels this year instead of just on the walls. This is also the first year the reception will be held in Varnado.

"The Varnado space is so great that we really wanted to take advantage of that," Zering said.

Another element that will make this year's showcase unique is the addition of a video category. Zering said there will be both creative documentary-style and news broadcast-style videos joining the usual digital single-lens reflex and cell phone photography submissions. Zering said there will be televisions set up to play the videos in the gallery and during the reception.

"I look forward to this every

year, but I'm just really excited to see all of the students' work up in the gallery," Zering said. "It really highlights some of the talent and hard work that's being put in over in the Department of New Media."

Dr. Ron McBride, codirector of the showcase, said he had always liked the idea of having a video category, but the logistics were not worked out until this year.

"We needed to do video because that's an important part of what we do at Northwestern," McBride said.

McBride said the quality of the work submitted this year is the best it's ever been.

"Every year I don't think the submissions can get better, but they do," McBride said.

Nadia Johnson, a sophomore

communications major, said she went to the showcase last year as a spectator and loved it. This year, she decided to enter a few of her own photos. Johnson said she submitted two photos in the DSLR category and one in the cell phone category.

"I always look forward to seeing which photos are selected because I like seeing other photography styles," Johnson said.

While the showcase is on display in Hanchey Gallery, visitors can vote for the People's Choice Award. Visitors can read instructions on how to vote in the gallery. During the March 3 reception, awards will be given for the top three in each category, Best in Show and People's Choice Award.

# Black History Month event speaker-less as month nears end

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

The Student Government Association will not have a Black History Month speaker for this year's event, Academic Affairs Commissioner Tja'h Edwards said at Monday's meeting.

Edwards said SGA waited too late to formalize a speaker. A previously scheduled Black Lives Matter event will take place.

In other business, the Demon Discount program may launch as early as next week, Student Affairs Commissioner Kristen Prejean said. With the new program, Prejean said students can better distinguish which businesses around the city offer student discounts.

External Affairs Commissioner Tyler Magnano and Prejean are designing a logo for businesses to display for the program.

Treasurer and Fiscal Affairs Commissioner Elizabeth Coleman released the standing balances:

- SGA: \$45,512.36
- Speaker: \$59,787
- Organizational Relief Form has about \$24,000 left

Speaker of the Senate Nick

Hopkins said SGA is looking to partner with the Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce to have a candidate forum for this semester's city elections.

Magnano said a new website for SGA is nearing completion with a launch date set for approximately two weeks.

SGA President Jacob Ellis said Vice President Cherish Wilson is restructuring the Senate departments. Ellis said the move is due to the lopsided number of senators in each department, since many senators have either been appointed or left.

During the Senate forum, Sen. Sheridan Douglas brought up concerns about how the digital faculty directory is outdated and in need of updating.

Sen. Darrin Nixon suggested aligning the proctoring center's hours with Watson Memorial Library's. Nixon said the ProctorU system costs about \$55, and some professors don't allow students to use any other external proctor.

Senators also discussed opening a dog park on campus, but Ellis said the only dogs allowed on all areas of campus are service

animals. He added that emotional support animals are allowed in the dorms, and pets aren't allowed on campus at all.

In new business, appointees to V.L. Roy Service Day and Traffic Appeals were approved. The appointees are:

- Blaise Crochet, Dawson Cranford, Hannah Boquet, Luther Brooks IV and Alexandria Nelson for V.L. Roy Service Day
- Terran Turner and Jules Lummus for Traffic Appeals

In old business, SGA approved resolutions announced during last week's meeting congratulating Sodexo and Director of First Year Experience and Leadership Development Reatha Cox.

In announcements, Ellis said the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, of which he is a member, is hosting a philanthropy dinner on Feb. 13 at the Cane River Brewing Company. The event will have live music, food, drinks and a raffling contest (see "Pike to host event for sick member," page 1).

A \$20 student ticket allows guest to enter the door, but you must buy a \$55 ticket for dinner. Alcoholic drinks may be purchased

at the bar. Raffle tickets are \$5 and student tickets may be purchased at the door.

The event is in honor of Connar Zaldivar, a sophomore at NSU and Pi Kappa Alpha brother. All proceeds are being donated to the American Cancer Society. To donate, contact a fraternity member.

## We're Hiring!

Looking for:

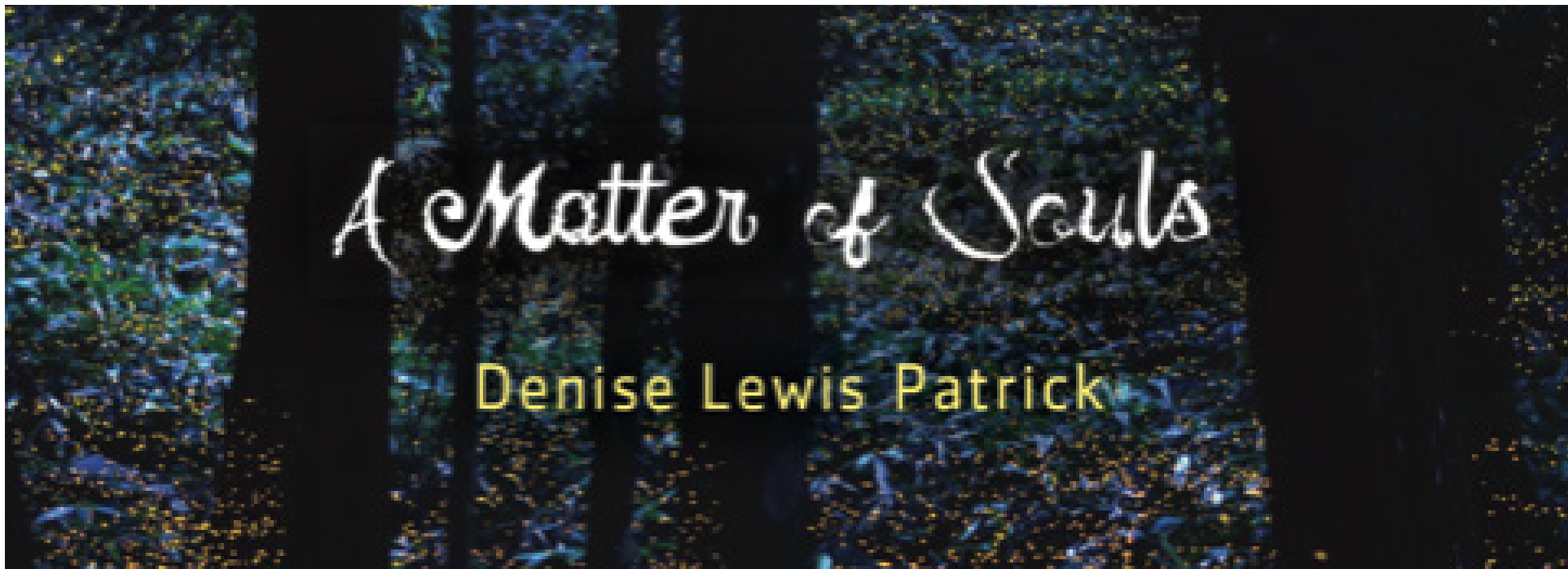
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- Artists
- Business Manager
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- Photographers

If interested email  
the Current Sauce at  
thecurrentsauce@gmail.com



# Alumni spotlight

## After NSU, Patrick wrote her way to New York -- and American Girl



Patrick is perhaps best known for writing historical fiction stories for American Girl. *Provided photo.*

**Trinity Velazquez**  
Copy Editor

Growing up in the 1960s, Denise Patrick knew she wanted a career in writing.

The Natchitoches native graduated from Northwestern State University in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in communications. She left for New York City right away.

"I knew from the beginning to even get my foot in the door, I was going to have to leave because there wasn't any opportunity for me," she said of pursuing a writing career in Natchitoches.

"There were limited opportunities in the first place, but there wasn't an opportunity for me as a black person locally to develop as a feature writer."

Patrick is perhaps best known for writing historical fiction stories for American Girl. Some of her stories include "A New Beginning: My Journey with Addy" about a little black girl living in the time of the Civil War and "Cecile's Gift," which is about a Hispanic girl living in New Orleans during the time of yellow fever. Patrick lives in New Jersey.

Patrick started out writing poems as a young girl, and then her love for writing progressed into stories.

"I was always interested in the words that people and the characters," she said. "It just kind of happened."

Patrick thought she was going to be a feature writer, and NSU's communications department had three focuses she had the option to major in. As she remembers, they were all in journalism: magazine, newspaper, or TV/advertising.

"I thought I was going to do feature writing for magazines, maybe newspapers, but really feature, like a storyteller," Patrick said.

Through an internship, Patrick found herself in New York. She says it was luck.

"It was random," she said. "I applied for this internship and I got it."

Patrick came back to NSU to finish her last semester, and then returned to New York. She worked in the publishing industry for about 10 years at the time her first trade picture book, "Red Dancing Shoes," was sold. That's when she began to look at her own writing not only as author but as an editor.

"I'm not sure now when I first heard or probably, read 'Kill your darlings,' but I understand very well that sometimes a sentence (or even a character) that Writer Denise loves, Editor Denise knows has got to go," she said.

She spends most of her time

thinking about her characters and their lives in her stories.

"I spend far too much time on (my characters). I consider the age, the setting, the point in time—and the meaning of most names. I have two books that I start with, one African and one 'Best Baby Names,'" Patrick said.

"I also collect names that I hear and like or find interesting. It can take days. Some stories that hang around for a few years might get complete name changes as part of a revision."

Patrick also teaches. She feels that growing up in small town like Natchitoches, she would have enjoyed teaching.

"I come from a family of teachers," she said. "It's funny because when I got ready to go to Northwestern and I was talking with my parents about my major, I was still in high school, and I said 'journalism,' and my father said 'journalism education,' and I said 'no, journalism,'" she said.

When she visits schools now, she looks at kids of all races and genders. She says that they are fortunate because she never met anyone who was a writer at their age.

"It wasn't like I was modeling myself after someone I admire or someone I met, she said. "In many ways I modeled myself after the teachers who raised me."

Patrick says she didn't have that direct example growing up, but she did have the support of her family, as her parents always encouraged her writing.

Although the American Girl stories are aimed at little girls, Patrick writes for all ages.

When she writes for younger people, she's aware of the way kids process different kinds of information and experiences.

"If I'm writing about a difficult topic—say, the 16th Street Bombing in Birmingham in 1963 — I do spend some time thinking of how best to get across the devastation of such an event on a basic human level without undue fear," she said.

"It's a scary thing, yes, but my thinking was what might go through an average child's mind," she said.

Patrick never worked as a writer in Natchitoches.

"Once I got to New York and met all kinds of people, doing all kinds of writing with many black writers, it was kind of an eye-opening thing," she said.

"I never felt I could not be a writer because I was black," Patrick said. "I felt at the time there weren't any opportunities for me to do what I wanted to do at the time at home."

"Staying in Natchitoches, I don't know if I would have become a writer in the way that I have."



# Finding a home while studying abroad

## International students tell their story



**Valentina Alvarez, a senior double majoring in Music and English from Columbia, remembered instantly finding the differences between the always moving pace of her home city and the quiet nature of Natchitoches** Photo by Brianna Corley.

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Emilija Dancetovic, a business administration senior, remembers moving from her home country to Natchitoches as a blur, something that happened too fast.

"I was lost," Dancetovic said. "I didn't know what to expect."

People from around the world come to Natchitoches to study at Northwestern State University. They face challenges, but they also have rewarding experiences.

In her home country of Serbia, students must choose between becoming a pro athlete or continuing their studies after turning 18. Dancetovic hoped to achieve both simultaneously and signed a contract to play tennis for NSU.

"I'm a student athlete, and here there is a better opportunity to play tennis and go to school at the same time," Dancetovic said.

Dancetovic feels people in the South are helpful and welcoming. Further north, where she has been able to travel and visit, is much more like her home.

"People are super nice," Dancetovic said. "Everyone is going to help you, and even you don't know someone on the street they're going to say hi to you."

This welcoming atmosphere has extended itself to the tennis team. She noted there's an understanding

between the players who are all international students since they are in similar situations.

"We're really connected," Dancetovic said. "I think we kind of understand each other."

Connection is especially felt when she is able to speak her native language. She will often share conversations with a biology professor and a violin professor who know Serbian.

"It's so cool when you get to speak your language with someone," Dancetovic said. "I wish I had students, but this is just fine."

Much like Dancetovic, Judit Castillo, a senior health and exercise major from Spain, also came to the United States to play tennis while studying to earn a degree and expand her knowledge of English.

"The only thing I knew about America was from the news," Castillo said. "I knew about the bigger cities [such as] New York City [and] Los Angeles."

Louisiana, however, was relatively unknown to Castillo, so she began doing research on the state and the town of Natchitoches that she would soon call home.

"It was a new step and my life, and I was ready," Castillo said. "I knew it was going to be a big change, but I was ready for it."

The change Castillo knew she would encounter was in every inch of her new life, from the way of living to the change from a thriving

city to a sleepy town.

"When I'm here I'm thinking I'm building my future," Castillo said. "When I'm here I'm studying and working and practicing tennis. When I'm back to Spain it's more of a relaxing time."

Castillo does find comfort in other international students as they all have families they have left behind to pursue an education abroad. She feels her perspective of the world has been widened by her teammates and coaches. She gets to compare her Spanish to versions spoken by those from Columbia and Honduras.

"It makes you more open to people," Castillo said. "It makes you more willing to help others."

Valentina Alvarez, a senior double majoring in music and English from Columbia, knew the same feeling of hesitance before falling in love with Natchitoches and its culture.

"It was hard," Alvarez said. "I cried a lot because I wasn't prepared to come."

Hoping to pursue her love for music, Alvarez was encouraged by her father to take up education abroad. Alvarez remembered instantly finding the differences between the always moving pace of her home city and the quiet nature of Natchitoches. She remembers the nervousness she felt when first settling in.

"My first roommate was American, and she was so nice,"

Alvarez said. "I always say she was my angel."

Alvarez's roommate, Alison, helped her to feel more confident with her English and showed her Louisiana's culture through restaurants and touring the town.

"Because of her I started making more friends," Alvarez said.

She also noticed how warm and receptive Natchitoches and NSU residents are.

"People are welcoming," Alvarez said. "When they know you are from another country, they want to know more about it."

Alvarez is grateful for her friends and an "American mom" who looks after Alvarez when she is sick and attends her choir concerts. She still misses parts of home, especially being able to speak her native language. Other international students who allow her to speak Spanish make her feel at home.

"It's good when you have people from Spain because you're like, 'Oh my God you speak Spanish,'" Alvarez said. "You realize the world is so big and you know more cultures."

Alvarez said coming to America has opened her up to many new opportunities such as a trip around Europe with choir and the confidence that living alone has given her.

"It changed my life, and it's helped me to go around the world," Alvarez said.



# Intimates, but outside

## How to wear lingerie in public



**Valentine's Day is about love, and self-love is one of the most important types of love. Photo by Emily Talbot.**

**Mary Gaffney**  
*Fashion Columnist*

Valentine's Day is rapidly approaching, and I could not be more excited. The rose hues and pink vibes are romantic and fun, even if you're just hanging with friends or family for this special day of love that the candy companies created to force us into buying heart-shaped boxes of chocolates and overpriced roses.

The day of dressing in reds and pinks can be fun, but let's know that there is more to a day of love. With love, comes lingerie. That generally stays in the bedroom (or car, or woods, or hotel room, etc.), but let's focus on how to wear your indoor intimates outside.

Valentine's Day is about love,

and self-love is one of the most important types of love. Showing the world a more vulnerable side with your clothing can be a form of self-love, and I'm all about it.

There are many ways to wear lingerie outside. Some are subtle and others are a tit smack in the face that can be freeing and new. I love to wear a teddy, a usually lace bodysuit, with jeans or pattern pants to keep the outfit looking classy. I personally love lingerie items in black since they keep up the simple yet sexy look that I love to go for.

Bralettes can also be worn as a shirt if you aren't too concerned with showing tummy and cleavage. There is something about wearing a corset in public that is like

strapping on confidence for the day. Wearing lingerie in public with confidence ties a whole look together.

A simple slip look with a cardigan or jacket and boots is comfortable and stylish. Literally there is nothing I love more than silk and lace. They are the perfect combination of sexy and classy. When it comes to slips, you can even wear a slip skirt, pairing it with T-shirts or sweaters.

No matter what you do, you will always look like you're stepping up your style in the easiest way possible. A casual Valentine's look is perfect for a day alone or with the girls. No matter what you wear, Valentine's Day is about love and treating your friends and family.

# Beth Mann named to CAPA Hall of Fame

**David West**  
*Director of Communications*

**NATCHITOCHES** – Northwestern State University Director of Publications and University Printing Beth Mann is the 2019-20 inductee into the Mrs. H.D. Dear Sr. and Alice E. Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts Hall of Fame.

Mann, a 1975 graduate in advertising design from NSU, has had a 30-year career in graphic design including the past 17 years at Northwestern State. She was a graphic designer at the Louisiana Technical College in Natchitoches from 1990 to 2003 after 13 years as a floral designer in Natchitoches. In 2012, the university honored her with an Nth Degree and in 2016, she was among NSU faculty and staff recognized with Above and Beyond awards.

Mann is the 17th alumnus, faculty member, administrator or organization to be welcomed into the CAPA Hall of Fame.

"I am really humbled by this honor. I feel I'm here doing my job just like everyone else," said Mann. "I am fortunate to have had the opportunity to work for my Alma Mater doing what I love."

Mann credits many of the faculty she learned from as an

undergraduate with preparing her for a successful career.

"I had wonderful art professors that taught me the design knowledge I needed to apply to my employment as a floral designer for 13 years and graphic designer for 30 years," said Mann, who is retiring in April. "Because of them, I have been able to meet the challenges that I faced in day-to-day expectations with confidence I did not have before attending NSU."

Scott Burrell, director of the School of Creative and Performing Arts said Mann is known for her creativity, diligence and patience when dealing with demanding projects or last-minute requests.

"CAPA and the University are so fortunate to have someone with her skills and creativity. We are very honored to have her as the 2019-2020 inductee to the CAPA Hall of Fame," said Burrell. "Beth has been integral to the workings of the School of Creative and Performing Arts. Not only is she a great collaborator with CAPA faculty, staff and students, but she really goes out of her way to make everything look amazing whether its calendars, posters or programs. She is such a gifted artist."

Former NSU Director of Informational Services and the NSU Press Don Sepulvado occasionally worked with Mann

when the university had work done through the local state printing office at the Technical College. When Northwestern State determined it needed a full-time graphic designer, Sepulvado selected Mann.

"Over time, I observed Beth helping others with their various printing tasks. She was then and is now a team player," said Sepulvado, who spent 30 years at NSU. "Beth's pleasant personality and graphic creativity influenced thousands of publications during her tenure. Her interaction with clients provided them both with a daily dose of inspiration in the power of digital design possibilities."

During her career at NSU, Mann has created hundreds of flyers, brochures, magazines, posters, programs and other publications that enhanced the university's image, promoted upcoming events and aided in marketing and student recruitment.

"I appreciate her ability to take an idea and make it come to life," said Director of Student Affairs Reatha Cox. "Her professionalism and creative talent are clear to anyone. But it's her positive attitude that have made her a favorite among faculty, staff, students and even professionals all across the country. She has helped our students who have served on regional, state, and national boards

and committees shine."

Many of those programs and posters helped promote plays, concerts, exhibitions and events in the School of Creative and Performing Arts. Her work is evident throughout the halls of the A.A. Fredericks Center for Creative and Performing Arts.

"Beth has created numerous artistic posters and program covers for creative performances in the vocal area as well as flyers used for recruiting," said Associate Professor of Voice Terrie Sanders. "I am always amazed at the skill and creativity she displays in providing a final product that perfectly represents our specific area. Her artistic work is always beautiful and current."

Matt DeFord, head of the Department of Fine + Graphic Arts marvels at the way Mann has adapted to the changes in her field since she earned her degree.

"I imagine her first design jobs were literal cut and paste. Now she works with widely used creative software that changes all the time and she has kept up with these updates admirably," said DeFord. "Beth has been an amazing resource to our department. She is a consummate professional. Projects brought to her are completed quickly and are well-designed. She asks all the right questions up front and the job gets done right."



## NSYou

What's your most memorable Valentine's Day experience?



"My junior year of high school I was hellbent on making this guy my Valentine. I really thought it was going well until I found out he had a girlfriend."

**Caleb Ross**  
Junior



"My boyfriend at the time bought a \$50 Valentine's gift for his best friend's girlfriend, and she was apparently supposed to pay him back. Somehow, I never ended up getting a present..."

**Madeleine Hensley**  
Junior



"My most memorable Valentine's Day was when my girlfriend broke up with me."

**Nick Hopkins**  
Junior



"I took my girlfriend to a \$160 dinner, and we both got extremely drunk and proceeded to spend all the rest of my money at a casino."

**Joshua Burford**  
Junior

# Demon Debate

## Valentine's Day: Worth it or nah?

*Valentine's Day is Feb. 14*

### Valentine's Day is dumb

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

I personally have always thought Valentine's Day is annoying, and it might not be for the reasons you'd expect. In fact, I think Valentine's Day is worse when you are in a relationship rather than single.

On Valentine's Day, you must deal with seeing what feels like everyone you know proclaiming their love on social media. I tend to find 'couple posts' cringey anyway, but they reach a new level on Feb. 14. However, when you're single,

there is no pressure. You don't have to plan a fancy evening or worry about buying anyone a gift. If you look around, you'll probably find some friends to spend a good night with without having to worry about it being Valentine's Day in the first place. (Hence the Valentine's Day I spent at the Press Box my freshman year.)

In a relationship, especially a new relationship, planning a date on Valentine's Day can be tricky. You don't want to spend too much money on a gift for them and look

too eager or clingy. At the same time, though, you don't want to ignore the holiday and hurt their feelings if they think the day is a big deal. It's also difficult because, in my opinion, most Valentine's Day gifts look cheesy to begin with.

As for the night itself, any restaurant you go to will be crowded and the way you spend your time will feel like a subtle competition between you and your other friends that are in relationships.

Overall, relationship or not, I'd rather skip straight to Mardi Gras.

### Valentine's Day makes the economy great

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor

A few days before Valentine's Day, experts are anticipating that shoppers will spend approximately \$27.4 billion dollars on their significant others and friends on Feb. 14, according to the National Retail Federation. This is an incredible jump compared to the previous trend, which has led to a slight increase from \$18.6 billion in 2013 to \$20.7 billion in 2019.

Last year, Valentine's Day was the third most shopped holiday, after Christmas and Thanksgiving. Despite complaints from couples everywhere, the contribution to the U.S. economy and the discounts available at the majority

of department and online stores are some of the biggest reasons why we should love Valentine's Day.

Consumer spending is the backbone of the American economy, driving about 70% of the gross domestic product on average, according to CNBC. Understandably, holidays are some of the biggest days for shopping around the world.

Christmas shopping is considering the largest seasonal shopping period in the country, netting up to \$700 billion in 2019, also according to the National Retail Federation. Valentine's Day can't really compare to that, but as the third largest, it's nothing to sneeze at.

Because of the huge influx of shoppers, stores go wild with sales and discounts on products that they think would make great gifts. For instance, some jewelry stores cut prices as much as 85% and the candy prices (my favorite) are often ridiculously low.

There will always be people who complain about holidays for various reasons. The crowds at stores, the commercialization and the pressure of finding gifts are all valid reasons for disliking holidays. But just remember next time that your pink teddy bear is providing jobs and boosting the economy and you'll be fine. If nothing else, you can find some great sales when shopping for yourself.

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## Party Girl has a pity party

**Party Girl**  
Contributing Writer

6:05 p.m.

Hey y'all, it's your favorite Party Girl back at it again! But this time I'm not just going to any old party. Party Girl's got her a mans and we are gonna get lit tonight. Love is in the air, the night is young and I am ready to spend some time with the love of my life💖👯!

He's gonna come pick me up in an hour and take me out to a fancy restaurant. Better get ready. TTYL!💖

7:10 p.m.

Hey party people, guess my man's running a little behind. He's always showing up fashionably late. I've been waiting for this night for weeks.

It's probably a good thing he's a little late. It gave me some extra time to get ready. My new dress fits perfectly, my hair is done up all nice, I've got perfume on, my breath smells fresh and I am ready to roll!

I probably shouldn't say this, but I think this is the one. Party Girl has finally found a man she can rely on and who treats her right. He'll be here any minute now. Wish me luck!

7:25 p.m.

Hey all! He still hasn't shown up yet. Maybe I should send him a text just to make sure he's okay. Our reservations will have been taken by the time we get to the restaurant, but that's okay. We can find another place.

I'm sure he's just having trouble with his car. I keep telling him get that thing fixed. I'm gonna shoot him a cute message.

"Hey babe, can't wait to see youu! Tonight is going to be magical. Let me know when you're on your way.😘"

Do you think that was fine? Maybe I should have worded it differently.

7:55 p.m.

Still haven't heard from my man. His phone must be acting up. I told him to get an upgrade but he never listens. Should be here any minute now.

I'll check his socials. He's constantly posting on Instagram... but I have my notifications on. I would have known if he posted something.😏

I'm probably just being paranoid. Everything is going to be okay. Yeah, it's not how I expected this night to go, but we'll still have a great time together.

8:15 p.m.

Where could he be? I hope

he's not hurt. Maybe some of his friends took him out for drinks. I should check their stories. Surely they've posted something.

I'll just take a look and...who's she? She's really pretty. But why does my man have his arm around her waist?

Why is he looking at her like that? He never looks at me like that...

What are you looking at? Don't say it...No, I'm not crying, you're crying!😭😭

8:25 p.m.

What did I do wrong? Was I too clingy? Too pushy? Did I not make him feel wanted or loved? Was I not good enough?

It's all my fault. It must have been something I did.

Don't look at me! I'm ugly crying and you know how I hate to be looked at when I ugly cry.

Maybe that tub of ice cream I bought will cheer me up.😭

8:45 p.m.

Ice cream is helping a little, but now our favorite movie is on.📺 We used to love watching this together.

At least, I liked watching it. Did he like it? Is it too girly? There is a lot of mushy stuff in this flick.

Maybe he thought he could get into my pants if he watched it with me.

Was he just using me? Ugh, I'm such a dummy.😞 I should have known better.

9:25 p.m.

How could he fall for a girl like that! She dresses like a skank!😡

What? Yeah I'm looking at her social media, so what? Get off my back.

Just look at her, those boobs are totally fake.

9:50 p.m.

I don't need that cheating jerk. I'm too good for him. He doesn't deserve someone like me. I hope he chokes on her tongue.😏

10:20 p.m.

What am I doing? This isn't right. I'm Party Girl! I don't need that lying slime ball. I need go out and have my own fun.

The night is young and I'm in the mood to party! Maybe I'll find someone new.😏

Until next time,

XOXO,

Party Girl

## Letter from an Avid Juuler

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor

Dear Congress, Food and Drug Administration, and President Donald Trump:

For several years, I have been the proud owner of a Juul. A former cigarette aficionado during my freshman year, at first I never got into the vaping scene for a variety of reasons.

One reason was the large size and unwieldiness of the average vaping device. Another was the initial cost and annoying upkeep of these devices, which required you to manually refill the tank fairly often. Finally, vaping from laptop sized devices was seen as uncool and I was quite susceptible

to peer pressure in those days.

My sophomore year, fall 2017, I noticed that a fair few of my former smoker buddies had switched to devices that were both ridiculed and praised by a variety of people. At first, I jokingly called these devices "USB drives" and refused to go near them. Later, I would occasionally ask a friend for a puff when I had no cigarettes, or when I was indoors. As such things go, I caved and bought a Juul one day and have owned one since.

Since that day, I have owned over 30 Juuls (they're very easy to lose, don't blame me), and bought hundreds of pods. My first starter pack cost \$60, but they've gone down since then to about \$14 the last time I needed a new Juul.

Throughout this time, the federal government has had an ongoing feud with my favorite nicotine-delivering brand. First banning advertisements, then some of my favorite flavors (I'll always miss you, crème brûlée), and eventually all but tobacco and menthol. While this battle of the buzz is intended to protect those who should not be using Juul products, it has inevitably harmed the legitimate consumers of a product intended to prevent tobacco use.

As I sit here typing, occasionally puffing a menthol-flavored Juul, I'm thinking that this is government gone too far. As a consumer, I should have the ability to use the flavors that

I like best. Just because kids are dumb enough to start vaping at ages that our generation wouldn't have dreamed of does not mean that we should suffer for their decisions.

Banning the flavors will not mean more people quit using nicotine; it just means that they won't enjoy it as much or will go back to cigarettes. Changing the smoking age won't stop people under 21 from smoking. It just means a bunch of 18 to 20-year-olds want me to go to the gas station with them for some reason.

Punish those who break the law (I'm looking at you, teenagers), not the innocent consumer. I really miss mint pods and crème brûlée.



# Tyler Smith named second-team Preseason All-Southland Conference



Tyler Smith led the Demons with 10 home runs and 36 RBIs in 2019. Photo by Chris Reich.

## Jason Pugh

Assistant Athletics Director for Media Relations

NATCHITOCHES – Tyler Smith's career path has been one of steady improvement, one that landed him on the All-Southland Conference team at the end of the 2019 baseball season.

Smith will begin his senior season as part of the 2020 Preseason All-Southland Conference Team, being named to the second team that was announced Tuesday by the conference office.

A 5-foot-11, 180-pound outfielder, Smith led the Demons with 10 home runs and 36 RBIs in 2019. He enters the 2020 season three home runs shy of 10th place in Northwestern State career history and ranks 10th in school history in career triples with seven. Analytically, Smith was the 146th best hitter in the country in 2019, according to a study by the NCAA.

Smith enters his final season in a Northwestern State uniform within striking distance of the career top 10 in games played, at-

bats, RBIs and total bases.

A talented defender, Smith has recorded 22 career outfield assists, including 12 in his sophomore season. He has tallied at least four outfield assists in each of his three seasons.

Smith was the lone Demon chosen on the two 14-player teams. Central Arkansas led all teams with five selections.

Northwestern State opens its 2020 season at home against Wichita State on Feb. 14. First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m.

# Chougkaz named LSWA Player of the Week

## Matt Vines

Assistant Sports Information Director

NATCHITOCHES – Northwestern State University freshman Nikos Chougkaz has been named the men's college basketball player of the week by the Louisiana Sports Writers Association Player of the Week, the organization announced Monday.

The honor is voted on by a panel of state media voters and is

the first such honor for a Demon's men's player this season.

Chougkaz averaged 13 points and 10 rebounds in a pair of NSU wins this past week.

The Athens, Greece, native accounted for 16 points and 12 rebounds in a 93-79 win at Houston Baptist, his fourth double-double in the past five games and fifth overall this season.

Chougkaz started the week with 10 points and eight rebounds in a 73-69 win against Abilene

Christian.

He made a 3-pointer with 10 seconds remaining to secure the victory against a top-four ACU squad in the Southland Conference.

The freshman is averaging 9.5 points and 7.5 rebounds per game this season.

NSU (10-12, 7-6 SLC) will start a three-game homestand Wednesday when they host Incarnate Word (6:30 p.m.) as the Demons attempt to climb from its fifth-place perch in the Southland Conference.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Softball

2/14/20 12 p.m.  
@Lady Demon  
Diamond  
vs. Murray State

2/14/20 2:30 p.m.  
@Lady Demon  
Diamond  
vs. Arkansas - Pine  
Bluff

### Women's Tennis

2/14/20 2 p.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady  
Demon Complex  
vs. Alcorn

2/16/20 11 a.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady  
Demon Complex  
vs. Texas State

### Men's Basketball

2/12/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. UIW

2/15/20 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. McNeese

### Women's Basketball

2/12/20 6:30 p.m.  
@San Antonio, TX  
vs. UIW

2/15/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. McNeese

## Results of last week's schedule

### Tennis

2/8/20 12 p.m.  
@Lafayette, LA  
vs. UL Lafayette  
L 1-4

2/9/20 11 a.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston  
W 4-3

### Softball

2/8/20 9 a.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Umass-Lowell  
W 12-2

2/8/20 11 a.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Valpo  
W 6-1

### Basketball

#### Men

2/5/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Abilene Christian  
W 73-69

2/8/20 7 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston Baptist  
W 93-79

#### Women

2/5/20 5:30 p.m.  
@Abilene, TX  
vs. Abilene Christian  
L 69-84

2/8/20 2 p.m.  
@Houston, TX  
vs. Houston Baptist  
W 54-46





# Free speech or hate speech?

## Students rally against preachers visiting NSU campus



In response to the visiting demonstrators, students began to gather to counter-protest the church's message. Photo by Thomas Celles.

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor  
**Samantha Clark**  
Editor in Chief

On Thursday, students' classes were disrupted by visitors from Martyrs Memorial Christian Fellowship in Coushatta, Louisiana preaching on Kyser Brickway.

The church's pastor and five

other members arrived on Kyser Brickway around noon. They brought two large signs adorned with Bible verses and a list of allegedly Hell-bound groups.

One member, Timothy Keaton, began loudly proclaiming the church's beliefs to students passing by.

At approximately 12:15 p.m., Sergeant Knight from University

Police arrived on the scene after receiving complaints of the disturbance. Several other officers also arrived shortly thereafter to assess the commotion.

University Police said that the visitors had the right to speak on campus as long as they remained 150 feet from Kyser and Williamson Halls, in accordance with university policy.

According to the NSU Student Affairs and University Police websites, this policy is intended to prevent the disruption of academic functions.

Despite the slight relocation, some students still complained about the noise.

"We could hear them clearly from class [in Kyser]," Matt Phillips, junior, said. "We discussed it in class and all thought it was very disturbing."

Many students were upset by more than just the disruptive volume of the message, however. Several students walking past claimed that the group yelled derogatory slurs and curse words at them.

"My friend walked by with a rainbow lanyard, and she was called the f word," junior Shari Wilson said, referring to a homophobic slur.

Chloe Blank, sophomore, said that one of the men told her she was "on the road to Hell."

Some students did their best to ignore the excitement but others, such as sophomore Austin Warren, decided to approach the group.

"The first time I walked by they were kind of just shouting, and we were discussing how [the word] gay wasn't on the sign," Warren said. "They said that it was because gay means happy and that gay people

don't deserve that word."

In response to the visiting demonstrators, groups of students from Northwestern State University and the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts began to gather to counter-protest the church's message.

At one point approximately 150 to 200 students were at the counter-protest. Many were chanting and arguing with the guests, and some waved various flags representing the LGBTQ community.

See *PROTEST*, Page 3

## Head football coach charged with DWI

From submitted reports



Northwestern State University head football coach Brad Laird was charged with driving while intoxicated Saturday night, according to an NSU press release.

After a university investigation, Laird was suspended for one week without pay.

"He was also issued a letter of reprimand informing him of consequences that could result from any future misconduct that would violate the conditions of his contract with the university," NSU Director of Athletics Greg Burke said. "The letter also outlined additional measures to address this incident."

See *LAIRD*, Page 8



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce

### Quote of the Week

"Some people feel the rain, others just get wet."

Bob Marley

**5** Arts and Living: Jamie Flanagan Feature

**7** Viewpoints: Demon Debate - Mardi Gras

**8** Sports: Basketball Pictures



# University in talks over program to provide students with affordable course materials

Keator Poleman  
Digital Editor

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Greg Handel and Assistant to the Provost for Academic Support and Auxiliary Services Jennifer Kelly discussed proposals to replace the IncludEd program at Monday’s meeting.

IncludEd is a partnership with Northwestern State University and the NSU Campus Store to provide textbooks at a reduced cost to students.

Handel and Kelly said they have recently discussed plans with Follett to create a flat-rate system to purchase required course materials instead of just textbooks and e-books.

Currently, textbook fees are determined by the courses a student takes. Under Follett’s proposal, Follett Access, students will pay \$25 per credit hour, Handel said. The fee covers all related course materials such as lab coats and calculators.

Other materials such as scrubs and tap shoes are also under consideration for being added under the fee, Kelly said. She said iPads will not be included in the fee during the first year of the

program.

Handel said the proposal is “all or nothing.” Students cannot opt-out of the program for individual classes like with IncludEd. The opt-out option is available each semester. Likewise, he said even students with no required textbook are required to pay.

No decision has been made as of yet, Handel said. He said it is important for the university to get students their course materials for the first day of classes. Kelly said they are looking at different programs to determine what course materials should be added under the program.

A degree program under the proposal will be about \$3,000 over a student’s academic career, Kelly said. The program allows students to budget and determine which semester they may need to use Follett Access.

Kelly and Handel said the proposal might encourage professors to use more up-to-date materials for their classes as the price for students will still be the same. The university is looking for feedback from the student body as talks continue, the speakers said. Kelly and Handel said a decision will be reached in time for

Freshman Connection.

In other reports, Student Government Association announced it will have a speaker for this year’s Black History Month. Hollis Conway, father of Miss Louisiana 2018 Holli Conway, will speak in the President’s Room in the Friedman Student Union Wednesday at 7 p.m.

For reports, Student Body President Jacob Ellis said the University of Louisiana System is hosting its academic summit at the university in April.

SGA will host a “cradle to prison pipeline” school supply drive until the conference, Ellis said.

The association is hosting a mayoral forum and voter registration event on March 12. The date is tentative as there may be scheduling conflicts with the Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce.

Vice President Cherish Wilson said they will meet this Thursday to discuss applications for the Organizational Relief Fund.

Treasurer and Fiscal Affairs Commissioner Elizabeth Coleman gave the updated budget:

- SGA budget is \$45,492.88
- Speaker of the Senate’s budget is \$59,787

- ORF is \$24,450

External Affairs Commissioner Tyler Magnano and Student Affairs Commissioner Kristen Prejean are still working on the Demon Discount program. They say the program will be available soon.

Prejean said she is meeting with Wellness, Recreation, Activity, Center officials soon to discuss their operating hours.

Magnano said he is working on recovering the association’s Instagram account.

The account login information was lost some time ago, and steps are being made to find the passcodes, he said. Magnano said in the future, SGA will have its social media linked up to an official email account so other incidents like this may be averted.

No old business or new business was discussed.

Thomas Celles, The Current Sauce’s viewpoints editor, brought up an issue where university staff are leaving their offices before they are officially closed.

Ellis said this is a recurring issue and he will address it with the administration.

There will be no SGA meeting next Monday due to Mardi Gras break.

# University vice president steps down

Keator Poleman  
Digital Editor

Dr. Marcus Jones, Northwestern State University’s executive vice president of university and business affairs, is leaving his job at NSU to join the University of Louisiana System’s staff in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Jones, an NSU graduate, has worked for the university since 1994. Jones said leaving NSU is bittersweet. He said he has worked with many wonderful people in his time here.

Despite leaving Natchitoches for the capital, Jones said he hopes to continue to help NSU at a system level.

Jones was appointed as the executive vice president in 2016

during the tenure of then NSU President Jim Henderson.

Henderson, who is the UL System president, said he recruited Jones for his new job about two weeks ago.

“His academic and legal expertise will be fully utilized as we enhance and expand systemic initiatives for our nine member institutions,” Henderson said.

Henderson said Jones’ position is set so he can make a big impact at the state level.

Frances Conine, dean of students, said she will miss Jones personally and professionally. Conine said Jones’ move has left a void at the university, but NSU will continue to benefit through his work in the system.



POLICE

BLOTTER

2/06/20

Sexual Assult

N/A

2/06/20

Drug Law Violation

University Place 2

2/08/20

Disturbing the Peace - Intoxication

University Police Station

2/09/20

Hit and Run

Park Lot 32

2/10/20

Drug Law Violation

University Columns

2/11/20

Property Damage

Theatre West

Parking

2/11/20

Stalking

Off Campus

2/11/20

Dating Violence

University Columns

2/12/20

Hit and Run

HPE Parking Lot

2/13/20

Protestors

Kyser Hall Bricks



# Parc Natchitoches open for business

**Keator Poleman**  
Digital Editor

The cold air and wet weather didn't ward off attendees eager to get a firsthand glance at Natchitoches' new sports complex on Thursday, Feb. 13. Parc Natchitoches, named so as an homage to the area's French heritage, opened its doors to the public Feb. 14 with youth baseball and softball teams teeing off late in the evening.

Mayor Lee Posey, city council officials and Northwestern State University President Chris Maggio were among those welcoming attendees to the park.

Posey said there are plans to add walking and biking trails, a dog park, a playground, restrooms and pavilions to the complex. Five baseball and softball fields, a fishing pond and four soccer fields are already set up at the park.

Posey said a "hard opening" is set for April 4.

Kevin Warner, director of parks and recreation, will also act as director of the park. Warner said about 40 teams are set to play at the complex for a tournament on Feb. 29.

When asked about the NSU's role in the park, Warner said NSU sports and intramurals will be played at the complex. Warner said NSU will play a big role in the park going forward but did not go into detail as to the extent of said role.

NSU is receiving funding from the park through a 1% tax increase in the area. The university receives 40% of the revenue from the tax.

Parc Natchitoches is located at 4515 University Parkway. Lasyone's Meat Pie Restaurant is the park's concessionaire.

For more information, contact the Natchitoches Recreation Department at (318)-357-3892.

## Protest

From Page 1

Around 2:30 p.m. University Police intervened after an altercation occurred between a student and one of the preachers.

According to police, the man placed his hand on a student's shoulder without her permission. The unidentified student became visibly upset and ran past University Police Officer Franklin, who decided to intervene.

Officer Franklin also said he overheard one of the Bible Evangelists tell a black student that he or she was going to hell based on his or her skin color.

University Police said that they did not force the Bible Evangelists to leave. The church group chose to leave after the police told them they had to stop directly communicating with the students.

Students said that despite their disagreement with the demonstrators, they enjoyed the sense of community that the counter-protest fostered.

"I felt really proud of the student body at that moment," PRIDE President Haleigh Gates said. "Many students present were not members of the LGBTQ community, but they were still standing with their fellow students."

Dean of Students Frances Conine is proud of the students for standing up for themselves.

"I think it's the right thing to do: to stand up for who you are and what you believe in," Conine said.

Dean Conine said University Police is looking into allegations that the group crossed the line

between free speech and hate speech.

"Craig Vercher, who's the chief of police, is getting the body cam, and we're gonna look at it from the police officers to see if we find anything that would be contrary to our student code that would allow us to take any action against them," Conine said.

Conine also said they're going to talk to the district attorney to see what constitutes hate speech.

"I cannot condone any hateful behavior from any group of people," Jacob Ellis, student body president, said. "Campus should be a safe space for all students. They should feel respected and safe on our campus."

Dean Conine said that even though the group's values differ from the university's, they have the right exercise free speech on campus.

"As far as the university is concerned, our mission is contrary to all the kinds of things that they're talking about, but we must follow the law in terms of free speech and assembly as a public institution," Conine said.



# Living Library event honors Ben Johnson for Black History Month

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Waston Memorial Library's Living Library Collection will host its second event, Ben Johnson: A Natchitoches Legacy, on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 6:30 p.m.

The event will feature a panel of speakers that had a connection to Johnson including Claire Prymus, State Rep. Kenny Cox, Coushatta Mayor Dr. Johnny Cox, Edward Ward Jr. and Dr. Marcus Jones.

Each speaker will have about 15 minutes to share stories and memories of Johnson. There will also be a question and answer

portion at the end of the discussion.

"The things he [Ben Johnson] stood for and what he meant to the community is still being followed through, especially by the people on the panel," Deborah Huntington, head of collection development/cataloging at Watson Library, said.

Huntington said the event will be recorded and put onto a DVD that students will be able to check out at the library. Eventually, Huntington said there will also be a link to the program in the online catalog so that students can use the speakers as a primary source for research.

"We're hoping that a lot of community members will also

attend," Huntington said.

Part of the purpose of the Living Library, Huntington said, is about knocking down stereotypes and biases while showcasing someone who helped the community. Huntington said one of the reasons Johnson was chosen as the topic during Black History Month was because they wanted to showcase not only what he did for Natchitoches but for Northwestern State University as well.

Anna MacDonald, head of serials/media, said she hopes the students who attend the event are inspired by Johnson.

"He was someone who not only built himself up [but] he supported

his community," MacDonald said.

MacDonald described some of the ways Johnson left his legacy including his churches, casket factory, funeral home, camps and more. MacDonald said Johnson also helped bridge the gap between the white and black communities in Natchitoches during segregation.

Johnson's work is still alive in Natchitoches through the Ben D. Johnson Education Center, Legacy Youth Workforce Development Program and Legacy Café.

The Living Library event will take place in Kyser Hall 142, the Ora G. Williams Digital Media Center. The event is free and open to the public.



# Finding a way: navigating without reliable transportation



**Biking, walking or catching a ride, students without vehicles are never sure how they will make it to class.** Photo by Brianna Corley.

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living Editor

Four bikes. One stolen. Two broken. One currently out of commission.

This is the life of Tanner Terrel, a sophomore who's lived at The Quad his entire college career with no vehicle. He walks and gets the occasional ride from a friend. This doesn't mean his transportation to school is assured.

"I walk, I bike or I bum rides," Terrel said. "And I can't always bum rides everywhere because I don't have gas money."

Terrel finds there are many other transportation difficulties that extend beyond stability.

"Rain is horrid," Terrel said. "You walk, and you're muddy and wet all day in class."

He recalls cold conditions and running to a final last spring in the middle of a tornado warning. He also notes the physical obstacles that come with making it to class.

"The sidewalks are heinous," Terrel said. "The LSMSA dorm being built got rid of the bike path I took every day, and now I have to take a ridiculously long way around."

Terrel only recently found out about the shuttle bus that provides transportation for students on campus but does not know how to

access its schedule or call for it.

He is, however, aware he is not alone in his struggle to find reliable transportation

"I definitely see a lot of kids walking, and I've seen LSMSA children walking to Walmart," Terrel said.

Terrel believes public transportation could be beneficial to Natchitoches for those who do not have vehicles. It could help people go to Walmart or even get a job.

"It's not necessary but it'd be more help," Terrel said. "It'd make the town a bit better."

Madysen Norra, a junior who also does not own a vehicle also thinks public transportation could be beneficial.

"For class I either walk or I ride with my roommate," Norra said. "Grocery store or anywhere else just depends."

While many of her friends do not have cars, Norra states their support system makes it so that it doesn't matter as they often hitch rides with each other.

"It boils down to I have good friends, so difficulties don't necessarily arise," Norra said. "If I didn't I could definite[ly] see where I could have difficulties."

Norra used the shuttle bus earlier in semester when her roommate did not have a car but

expressed difficulty in finding how to actually access it.

"We knew the shuttlebus existed, but we didn't know how to contact it or what was involved with it," Norra said.

Norra noted that it took 20 minutes to locate the number and thinks Northwestern State University should make a greater effort to inform students about how to access the shuttle bus.

She also notes that public transportation would be beneficial for Natchitoches.

"Public transportation is always useful, and it's always beneficial to everyone who utilizes it," Norra said. "I think having a bus system or a taxi system could be useful."

While Natchitoches is organizing a plan to better biking and pedestrian livability, Mayor Lee Posey states there is no possibility for buses in the near future.

"I've been approached by groups, and every time we have come together most of the time it's from people who want to get to hospital visits," Posey said.

Natchitoches Regional Medical Center provides transportation, especially at their new cancer clinic, for people going to and from their appointments. The Natchitoches Parish Council on Aging also provides mobility assistance.

Posey regards that Natchitoches's size does not demand buses and would cause a large financial burden on the city.

The bike and pedestrian plan, however, has been a work in process for some time and will be phased in slowly over the course of the upcoming years.

"We're probably going to start on Northwestern's campus and a couple of off campus spots," Posey said.

Through NSU contact Van Erikson, Posey states that he hopes NSU will have rentable bikes on campus next year.

Implementing the bike and pedestrian plan doesn't come without its own set of challenges.

"It's challenging because we're such an old community with narrow streets, and there's not much [of a] way to widen those streets," Posey said.

People over the age of twelve are not allowed to ride bikes on the sidewalks of Natchitoches. Posey wishes to keep the sidewalks only for pedestrians.

In terms of NSU students specifically, Posey stated he is aware of how many students do not have transportation. He also said that if NSU thinks there is an issue with student transportation they would work collaboratively to solve the problem.



# Faculty Feature

## Jamie Flanagan, TRiO assistant director

**Finnley Plaster**

*Circulation Manager*

Jamie Flanagan is a fun-loving person who loves singing, playing games, spending time with family and traveling, but she also knows when it's time to be serious too.

"When it's time to care of business, I'm gonna take care of business" she said.

Flanagan is the assistant director of TRiO Student Support Services, a program for low-income students, first-generation students and students with disabilities pursuing at least a bachelor's degree. It provides workshops, classes, resource libraries, a computer lab, cultural enrichment trips and academic advising.

"If I had someone saying, 'I have all of these resources and I want to give them to you for free,' I would have jumped on this had I known when I was an undergrad," Flanagan said, who has a bachelor's from Northwestern State University. "I just wish more students would really take full advantage of it."

Additionally, TRiO provides mentoring programs and a health initiative.

The primary focus of TRiO is



**Flanagan became TRiO's assistant director in 2014.**

*Provided photo.*

academics, but it's not the only focus. "We understand that life happens," Flanagan said. "We look at the student in this department as a whole student. We don't just look at 'Oh, you have to get your grades.'"

Flanagan said students would describe her as goofy, firm and blunt.

"She pushes past her job," said

senior Destiney Williams, one of Flanagan's students. "She pushes to make sure she meets everybody's needs. She also incorporates everybody, and she also makes sure nobody feels left out."

Flanagan is a "mother away from home," said senior Kam Campbell, another one of her students.

Flanagan was born in California and moved to Louisiana at a young age. Growing up, Flanagan recalls being surrounded by loving family members, including her parents, an older sister, two great grandmothers, three great aunts and a great uncle.

She attributes much of her early maturity to these influential figures, who "kept it real" with her and helped guide her down the right path even in tough situations.

Growing up, Flanagan faced many hardships, and she had to grow up fast in order to take care of her family.

"I had no room or time to cave in," Flanagan said. "I had to keep pushing because life was still happening regardless of my pain or my frustration."

She began working as an academic advisor in the early 2000s. In 2005 a position opened in the TRiO program, and she's

been there ever since, helping students get the financial, physical, and emotional support they need.

Flanagan became TRiO's assistant director in 2014. In addition to her bachelor's degree, she has a master's degree in education and is on track to graduate with a doctorate in education in adult learning and development in May 2021.

TRiO, formed during the Lyndon B. Johnson presidency, has helped over 360 students this semester. As of last semester, students in TRiO have a graduation rate of 61%, while NSU's graduation rate is 45%.

Students interested in joining TRiO can pick up an application in Kyser 243 or download one from [studentsupportservices.nsula.edu](http://studentsupportservices.nsula.edu).

"People need to know that we're here," Flanagan said. "We're open to help, within the confines of our regulations, but even if we can't serve a student here, we will still help guide that student where they can receive the assistance that they need."

TRiO staffers want students to feel at home, Flanagan said. "We want them to know that they are loved and cared about and not just a student ID number."

# Mardi Gras Mambo

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

Mardi Gras is right around the float -- I mean corner -- and I'm ready to party so I can feel all the Catholic guilt about it later.

When it comes to my Mardi Gras fashion advice, my past experiences lack in inspiration. My past Mardi Gras looks were never the best. I was either out of town for Mardi Gras or too young to properly dress myself (since you really don't know what your style is or who you are at a young age). Last year for me was different, I wore the basics of the season.

There is always the classic green, gold and purple combination that you can go for. Those striped shirts are a staple, and there is a reason people still religiously wear it every year. Those t-shirts are so easy and

fun to dress up or down, no matter the day.

I love the idea of wearing an oversized Ralph Lauren Polo shirt as a dress, so if you happen to either splurge on one or find a solid colored shirt in a thrift store, you can easily rock the big-shirt look with some tennis shoes or boots. Adding fun socks and accessories to help keep up the Mardi Gras spirit is a definite yes from me.

If you want to keep your legs toasty and warm, since the weather is temperamental in Louisiana, wear pants and either tuck the shirt in or tie the front with itself or a colorful scrunchie that matches the look. There are so many ways to wear the Mardi Gras colors, so get creative and get color-blocking!

Color-blocking is something that I have adored for a long time

but only recently got into. For me, it's finding one color in an outfit and pairing it with similar tones of other colors. You have a pastel purple shirt? Try wearing light golds and greens with the look to keep a subtle yet stylish look.

I also love pairing it with a pop of bright color so it can help elevate the outfit a little further, making it stand out.

Mardi Gras is about partying, so keep that in mind. In New Orleans I would always see people dressed up in costumes, like it was Halloween all over again. And, oh boy, I am here for it.

If you're more outgoing with your looks, try amping it up by dressing in costume. This part is truly up to you and your imagination, but a lot of the parades in New Orleans are named after Greek and Roman

gods and goddess. Centering a look after Zeus, Bacchus or whatever other mythology god or goddess you wish can help you tie a look together with the occasion.

Be sure to sparkle and catch some beads for me, Demons!



**I also love pairing it with a pop of bright color so it can help elevate the outfit a little further, making it stand out.** Photo by Alison Garcia.



# Picks of the week

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

In recent years anime has gone from an obscure past time to a vibrant community with incredible influence. Its range and scope in genre as well as widespread audience have even caused Netflix to get on board and fund original productions to their subscribers' delight.

But what are the best shows that have come out Netflix's wish to get a slice of that anime pie?

## "Violet Evergarden"

A story which focuses on the ailing, long-term effects of war, "Violet Evergarden" follows its titular character Violet as she navigates the world and her place in it after the end of a war that has spanned over and consumed her entire life.

Heartfelt and emotional, "Violet Evergarden" displays the intricacies of the toll of war from the view of many characters. There are widows to soldiers, with severe cases of survivor's guilt. Each episode focuses on a different story with one narrative lacing them all together.

On top of its emotionally investing story, "Violet Evergarden's" animation is absolutely breathtaking. Stylization radiates from its overall character designs to the most miniscule detail in a scene's backdrop.

At 13 episodes and currently ongoing, "Violet Evergarden" is a premiere show to watch on a rainy day with a hot drink in hand.

## "Devilman Crybaby"

"Devilman Crybaby" took the anime community by storm upon its release in 2018. It radiates the same quality of pure unrestrained

madness as early 1980s and 1990s productions such as "Akira" and "Neon Genesis Evangelion" that put the genre on U.S. audience's radar.

A retelling of the 1970s "Devilman" manga, "Devilman Crybaby" is a modernized, fresh take on the classic story.

The series follows Akira Fudo, an unsuspecting high schooler who is possessed by a demon at one of the now fashionable Sabbath parties, and his long time friend Ryo Asuka, a protégé who became a professor in the United States, as they navigate a world slowly being taken over by demons.

With a run of 10 episodes, "Devilman Crybaby" is the perfect series to binge watch in a day and wonder what exactly you just watched after finishing it.

## "Carole and Tuesday"

A fun slice of life story featuring a futuristic setting, "Carole and Tuesday" is perfect for any lover of music.

As the title suggests, the show focuses on its leads Carole, a street-smart and ambitious worker who has always lived in the big city of Alba, and Tuesday, a clueless but kind wealthy girl who ran away from home to pursue her dreams. They attempt to make it big as musicians on Mars.

With arrangements ranging from anti-pop to rock 'n' roll created specifically for the show, this show is a love letter to music. If that isn't apparent enough, the episodes are even named after influential American songs.

With two parts on Netflix, "Carole and Tuesday" is a light-hearted show to enjoy anytime and will be sure to lift you up when you're feeling down.

# Student spotlight: Lydia Johnson



**The newfound platform has made Johnson feel empowered, and she has already began working on projects to give back to the community. Photo submitted.**

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

A little over a week after winning the title of Miss Black and Gold Louisiana, Lydia Johnson sits in Café DeMon, blueberry scone in hand and ready to lock herself in one of the group study rooms of the library to finish up schoolwork. As a senior biology major, her schedule is full.

"I wouldn't say that I imagined myself to become the person I am today," Johnson said. "I knew I wanted to grow into someone who was sure of themselves and was a leader for other people."

Johnson remembers being unsure of herself throughout her childhood, having been teased often. For her, growing up meant becoming more confident and being a leader. Always hoping to challenge herself, Johnson had never been in a pageant before entering to compete in Northwestern State University's Miss Black and Gold.

"I do advocate to be yourself despite what either people think about you," Johnson said. "So, I was like you know what, I'm going to practice what I preach."

From preparation to stepping on the stage, Johnson felt nervous. She noted JoAnna Fisher, the former Miss Black and Gold winner for NSU's competition, was a source of encouragement believing "she was everything that you're supposed to be."

The inspiration from other contestants also helped Johnson overcome her anxieties.

"Everyone was just doing their best and showing their qualities and characteristics on stage,"

Johnson said. "[They were just] pushing past the nervousness to show who they are."

The same unsureness filled Johnson in the Miss Black and Gold Louisiana competition until she stepped onto the stage. She said it was all it took for everything to begin to flow.

Winning the title, however, was a complete shock. There was only one thought in her mind when her name was announced as the 2020 Miss Black and Gold Louisiana.

"No way," Johnson laughed. "It was very nerve-wracking but then I thought you know things do come into fruition."

The newfound platform has made Johnson feel empowered, and she has already began working on projects to give back to the community.

A middle school in Benton, Louisiana was recently destroyed by a tornado, and Johnson has been focused on gathering school supplies and helping them with anything else they need during its time of recovery.

"I like to do more volunteer work geared towards children because they are the future and the foundation," Johnson said.

Johnson's primary message to others is to stop worrying about other's perception of you and trust in your own ability to be wonderful. She is excited to see where the journey of being Miss Black and Gold of Louisiana will take her.

"I feel like being Miss Black and Gold of Louisiana will help me go places," Johnson said. "Not only by just using the title but being the person I was meant to be through the title."



## Rocky road isn't just an ice cream flavor

**Luka Fagundes**

*NSU Student*

Why did the chicken cross the road? To get to the mechanic after driving in Natchitoches.

This town is known for many things. We are the home of Steel Magnolias, Natchitoches meat pies, the Christmas festival to end all Christmas celebrations and most importantly, roads that will have your grandma cursing when she hits that heart-shaped pothole just right.

To say that the roads in Natchitoches are a problem is putting it lightly. The roads here are the bane of a driver's existence, causing damage left and right without remorse.

On Saturday, a pothole slashed the tire and cracked the rim of a Natchitoches local, as reported by a user of a local Facebook group titled "FIX THE ROADS IN NATCHITOCHES PARISH!!!!!!" That's six exclamation points.

I had to pay for an entire new front-end axle replacement just a few years ago on a vehicle I had only owned for two years at the time, not to mention countless tire replacements.

People throughout the town are fed up of the driving conditions we are met with every day because Natchitoches Parish either refuses to fix these roads or refuses to acknowledge that they cannot fix these roads.

Instead, Natchitoches built its very own sports and recreation park that no one asked for, at an estimated \$10,800,000 for completion at time of first reporting. This was done to "bring more business in" to drive on roads that the parish cannot support.

We have come to the point where the conditions of the roads are getting worse and worse, and nothing is being done about them, despite the promises made to Natchitoches Parish residents.

The roads seem to be nothing more than a political talking point during our local elections, and once those elections are over, it's back to the same old same old that keeps this town in the decline.

Welcome to Natchitoches: cute town, terrible commute.

## Demon Debate

# If you didn't go to New Orleans, did you even Mardi Gras?

## New Orleans isn't the only place to celebrate Mardi Gras

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

The bright beads and sticky streets make for invigorating atmosphere hard not to get lost in when celebrating Mardi Gras in New Orleans, Louisiana but is the "Big Easy" really the only, all-encompassing way to celebrate?

It's easy to forget that Mardi Gras is not just about alcohol and flashy parades but is a cultural tradition with incredible history and background. There are tons of different ways to celebrate, most often overlooked.

The "Courir de Mardi Gras",

which is held throughout Louisiana's Cajun country, encompasses tradition and is often regarded as the real Mardi Gras. The festivities include going around town in groups begging for food to be used in a communal gumbo at the day's end.

The celebration's main event is the traditional run led by the Capitaine of the Mardi Gras who dons a cape and rides a horse. With costumed participants and onlookers, the run is comprised of chasing a live chicken, the communal gumbo's most prized ingredient.

People can expect lots of fun at the "Courir de Mardi Gras", but

even aside from the most traditional form of Mardi Gras, celebration comes in many forms.

Parades from Louisiana range from small-scale affairs to extravagant night fun. Some celebrations even bleed over into other states such as Biloxi, Mississippi and Mobile, Alabama, which have both become known for their Mardi Gras festivals.

Mardi Gras can simply encompass buying a king cake and keeping up with who receives the baby each year.

As long as you encompass its fun spirit, and "laissez les bons temps rouler", Mardi Gras can be celebrated anywhere, any way.

## No one parties like New Orleans

**Emily Snyder**

*Visual Editor*

While Mardi Gras may have originated in Mobile, Alabama, New Orleans, Louisiana is the city that truly brought it to life. Nothing can compare to the energy that New Orleans brings to the holiday. The entire city comes together to party and celebrate for weeks before the final day of partying on Fat Tuesday, this year starting on Jan. 4.

Growing up, I always looked forward to Mardi Gras because those weeks were filled with energy

and pride in my city. No one else can keep such buzzing energy going for weeks, and we pride ourselves in our partying. Mardi Gras is when we celebrate our city and who we are for going through everything we have.

But Mardi Gras isn't all about the parades. New Orleans holds true to tradition and hosts Mardi Gras balls with kings, queens and debutantes while dancing all night. These are sponsored by the parade krewes and can be bigger parties than the parade itself.

The Krewe of Bacchus throws a wild parade and an even wilder

afterparty that is fitting of the wine god it's named after. Even Bacchus has nothing on the Krewe of Endymion that throws a party in the Superdome. It cannot be topped by any other Mardi Gras celebration in the U.S.

Mobile can pride themselves on being the first, but they have nothing on New Orleans.

If Mardi Gras isn't filled with weeks of wild partying, people asleep in their reserved spots the morning after, and streets littered with special throws, beads, medallions and toys, then I don't want it.

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Lady Demons win the game against McNeese Feb. 15 at Prather Coliseum. Photo by China Brown.



The Demons win the game against McNeese Feb. 15 at Prather Coliseum. Photo by China Brown.

**Laird** From Page 1

Laird issued a statement apologizing for getting behind the wheel while intoxicated.

“It was a poor and selfish decision, and I apologize to everyone who was unknowingly put at risk,” Laird said.

Laird also apologized to “[his] family, Dr. Jim Henderson and the

University Louisiana System, Dr. Chris Maggio and Northwestern State University, Mr. Greg Burke and the Northwestern State Athletic Department, and to the Northwestern State football players and coaches – past and present” in his statement.

“As a role model for this great University and the players and coaches, I am disappointed as my actions were not in the best

interest of my family, University, players and coaches,” Laird said. “I completely understand there are consequences for all actions, and I accept the disciplinary terms that come with the decision I made Saturday night.”

Laird was a quarterback at NSU during his college career. He was named head coach in November 2017. His overall record as NSU’s head coach is 8-15.

GAME SCHEDULE

Baseball

- 2/21/20 3 p.m.  
@Brown-Stroud Field  
vs. North Alabama
- 2/22/20 1 p.m  
@Brown-Stroud Field  
vs. North Alabama (DH)
- 2/23/20 1 p.m  
@Brown-Stroud Field  
vs. North Alabama

Women’s Tennis

- 2/21/20 2 p.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady  
Demon Complex  
vs. Southern Miss.
- 2/23/20 11 a.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady  
Demon Complex  
vs. UTSA

Men’s Basketball

- 2/19/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, LA  
vs. Nicholls

Women’s Basketball

- 2/19/20 6 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, LA  
vs. Nicholls

Results of last week’s schedule

Tennis

- 2/14/20 11 a.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex  
vs. Alcorn  
L 1-4
- 2/15/20 11 a.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex  
vs. Texas State  
W 7-0

Softball

- 2/15/20 11 a.m.  
@Lady Demon Diamond  
vs. Arkansas - Pine Bluff  
W 23-4
- 2/15/20 1:30 p.m  
@Lady Demon Diamond  
vs. Murray State  
L 0-3

Basketball

Men

- 2/12/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Incarnate Word  
W 70-60
- 2/15/20 3 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. McNeese  
W 84-79

Women

- 2/12/20 6:30 p.m.  
@San Antonio, TX  
vs. Incarnate Word  
L 39-76
- 2/15/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. McNeese  
W 70-60





# NSU preps for coronavirus

**Keator Poleman**  
Digital Editor

Amid growing concerns over the coronavirus' spread and in partnership with local, state and federal health departments, NSU Health Services released a detailed notice informing the Northwestern State University community about the deadly virus.

The coronavirus, responsible for the deaths of over 3,000 individuals, is continuing to sweep across the world. Its effects have reached the U.S., where six deaths have been confirmed.

Symptoms for the coronavirus, the document reads, are flu like and may be mild in severity. The symptoms include fever, coughing and difficulty breathing.

The Health Services' document recommends those who have experienced the symptoms listed above should:

- Seek medical care right away. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.

- Call Health Services at 318-357-5351 if on campus or contact your primary care provider.

- Avoid contact with others.
- Not travel while sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

Health Services are available to provide advice by phone between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday to



**Engineered and implemented after the Ebola virus outbreak in 2014, the TIS is an enclosure the Department of Defense can use to safely transport patients with diseases like novel coronavirus. U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Cody R. Miller.**

Thursday and 7:30 a.m. - noon on Friday, the notice said.

Carla Walker, director of Health Services, said, in the event of an outbreak, the university's administration could close all campuses and possibly make all courses online for a period of time.

She said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is asking the general public to not buy masks for preventative measures at this time. Since many cautious members of the public are buying masks, health care workers are having trouble finding needed materials, she said.

"From what I understand from student housing, we do

have the capability of housing or quarantining some students if needed," Walker said.

She sent out a request through Student Messenger Tuesday asking the campus community to help donate supplies. The request asks for alcohol based hand sanitizers and antibacterial wipes.

Donations can be dropped off at either Health Services or the NSU Food Pantry.

The university will release more information as it becomes available, the notice added.

The University of Louisiana System's Board of Supervisors

See VIRUS, Page 4

## Higher lead, copper levels found in unfiltered water fountains

**Leanna Coy**  
News Editor

Two science classes at Northwestern State University are participating in research projects that show water from the unfiltered water fountains on campus has higher lead and copper levels than filtered fountains.

Dr. Chad Thibodeaux, professor in NSU's school of biological and physical sciences, said the project is to examine the amounts of lead and copper from the drinking fountains in Bienvenu Hall, Fournet Hall and Kyser Hall. Thibodeaux said the reasons his classes are examining lead and copper are because a lot of plumbing is done with them and they are two metals that the Environmental Protection Agency have tightly regulated.

Thibodeaux said NSU has been installing filtered water fountains around campus.

"We wanted to see if they are making a difference in reducing these metals in the drinking water," Thibodeaux said.

Thibodeaux said the water quality project has shown that the unfiltered water fountains have higher levels of lead and copper, especially in Fournet. He added that Kyser had the second highest levels, followed by Bienvenu.

In all three locations, Thibodeaux said the filtered drinking water substantially reduced the amounts of lead and copper.

"We hope this work will encourage the university to continue to purchase and install the filtered fountains throughout the university," Thibodeaux said.

Thibodeaux said the group was able to duplicate the project's re-

See WATER, Page 4



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce

## Quote of the Week

*"We realize the importance of our voices only when we are silenced."*

**Malala Yousafzai**

**5 Arts and Living: Setting of aspiring artists in every form**

**6 Viewpoints: The virus gone viral**

**8 Sports: NSU wins at Grambling**



# Mayoral candidate addresses SGA

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

Ahead of the April 4 elections, Natchitoches mayoral candidate Ronnie Williams Jr., Democrat, visited the Student Government Association Monday to answer questions from the Senate.

He asked the senators what they think a new mayor should do to make Natchitoches more “enticing.”

Many of the senators said more activities should be made available to young adults.

One SGA member asked, if there isn’t anything for college students to do in the city, then what’s the point of staying in Natchitoches?

When asked how he would handle crime in the city, Williams said investing in technology and holding others accountable would help reduce crime.

Williams, a 2008 graduate of Northwestern State University, is a teacher with the Red River Parish School Board, pastor at the Rockford Baptist church and was a mental health specialist.

He is a former SGA senator and is married to Tiffany Williams, a 2011 Scholars’ College graduate.

Williams was born in Shreveport, Louisiana and moved to Natchitoches in 2001.

SGA will host the mayoral forum on March 19 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Ora G. Williams Digital Media Center in Kyser Hall.

Other registered mayoral candidates include:

- Lee Posey – Independent
- David Kees Jr. – Libertarian

SGA did not directly invite the mayoral candidate to speak at the meeting, Student Body President Jacob Ellis said.

Ellis said SGA released a statement welcoming any candidate who wishes to speak at a meeting to do so.

Ellis said the university announced its Pandemic Response Plan in the wake of the University of Louisiana Systems’ President Jim Henderson saying all universities should be preparing for a possible outbreak.

Ellis said the response plan, of which he is a part of, is in the

process of making sure NSU is ready for if the coronavirus affects the university.

For new business, SGA confirmed all appointees to their respected post. The approved candidates are:

- SGA Senate – Colbi Washington
- Committee on Organizations – Tyler Magnano and T’jah Edwards
- Current Sauce editor in chief – Trinity Velazquez
- KNWD general manager – Tifphany McClinton
- Argus editor in chief – Allie Atkinson

The Potpourri editor in chief candidate, Haleigh Gates, was unable to attend the New Media Board meeting at which the candidates are chosen. Therefore, the board will meet a later date to make the final appointment of the academic year.

Other upcoming events coming to campus are:

- March 18 – Safe Spring Break
- March 29 – Carolyn Huntoon, former director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston Texas, will speak at NSU. Huntoon served in her post from Jan. 1994 to Aug. 1995.

The Demon Discount program is postponed again as External Affairs Commissioner Tyler Magnano and Student Affairs Commissioner Kristen Prejean have yet to issue a release date.

Prejean said the release would be soon but did not give an exact date.

Magnano announced a new Instagram page for SGA has been launched.

During Senate Forum, Sen. Sheridan Douglas said she’s heard of workers at Café DeMon allegedly giving away unclaimed orders to other customers.

The workers have also allegedly made orders for their friends when there were other customers in front of them, she added.

Treasurer and Fiscal Affairs Commissioner Elizabeth Coleman updated the budget:

- SGA – \$45,462.88
- Speaker of the Senate’s – \$59,787
- ORF – \$24,450

# ULS board approves flat rate tuition program

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

The University of Louisiana System’s Board of Supervisors approved the adoption of a flat rate tuition for the Compete LA program when they met Friday at Northwestern State University.

Compete LA is designed to help the 653,000 Louisiana students who have some college credits but no degree re-engage with higher education.

The proposed rate is \$275 per credit hour. The price is all-inclusive except required course materials.

Eligible recipients of the program must be Louisiana residents with some college credit but no bachelor’s degree, been out of college for at least two years and academically/financially eligible to enroll at a ULS institution.

ULS President Dr. Jim Henderson announced the launch of the program at a Natchitoches Chamber of Commerce meeting in August.

The board also addressed the risk of ULS facilities being affected by the coronavirus. Henderson said the board is preparing for possible contaminations.

He compared the issue to Hurricane Katrina by saying some ULS campuses may need to house fellow students and personnel in the event of an outbreak.

The board also addressed matters pertaining to NSU specifically.

President Dr. Chris Maggio asked the board to approve the revisions made to NSU’s mission statement. Through an email sent to Henderson, Maggio said the revisions were made following six months of analysis.

Maggio said the revised statement is “inclusive, embraces diversity, anticipates change, and facilitates education access and attainment.”

The new mission statement reads as follows:

“Northwestern State University is a responsive, student-oriented institution committed to acquiring, creating, and disseminating knowledge through innovative teaching, research, and service. With its certificate, undergraduate, and graduate programs, Northwestern State University prepares its increasingly diverse

student population to contribute to an inclusive global community with a steadfast dedication to improving our region, state, and nation.”

Maggio said the university’s vision to be the nation’s premier regional university has not changed.

He outlined NSU’s core values as:

- Our students are our priority
- Diversity helps define who we are
- We are future-focused
- Innovation leads the forward edge of change
- We honor and respect the ideals of freedom
- We are careful stewards
- Integrity is our cornerstone
- We are a team

The ULS board approved NSU’s proposal to renew a general agricultural lease in DeSoto Parish.

These three tracts of land totaling 366.98 acres were acquired through the last will and testament of John Crow, an NSU alumnus. The lease will commence on May 16, 2020 and end on May 15, 2025 with the possibility of adding an additional five years.

Under the agreement, NSU will receive \$15,100 per year and retain 100% of the land’s surface and minerals.

All proposed Louisiana Education Quality Support Funds were approved as well. NSU’s proposed funds are the:

- Dr. Stan Chadick Professorship in Mathematics
- Dudley Downing Distinguished Graduate Endowed Scholarship in Education.

The board approved the University of Louisiana at Monroe’s request to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the other ULS member institutions. The memorandum is intended to ease the pathway to a pharmacy degree.

The partnership ensures that 100% of students in the ULS who meet the minimum requirements can interview.

In other news, the board announced plans to review ULM presidency applicants.

The search committee will convene March 11 at ULM “to accept their charge, gather input from the community, approve a tentative search timeline, and publish a list of ideal candidate qualifications.”



## Six named to Northwestern State's Long Purple Line for 2020



**Harvey Marcus**



**John Smith**



**Jerry Pierce**



**Ed Orgeron**

**David West**

*Director of Communications*



**Sujuan Boutte**



**Tommy Whitehead**

**NATCHITOCHES** – Six distinguished Northwestern State University alumni will be inducted into the university's Alumni Hall of Distinction, the Long Purple Line. This year's inductees are state official Sujuan Boutte of Prairieville, businessman Harvey F. Marcus Sr. of Monroe, Louisiana State University Head Football Coach Ed Orgeron, NSU Vice President for External Affairs Jerry Pierce, Fed Ex Freight executive John A. Smith of Memphis, Tennessee, and former NSU faculty member Thomas Whitehead of Natchitoches.

The induction will take place on Friday, April 3 at 11:30 a.m. in McCullen Hall at the Natchitoches Events Center, 750 Second St. Tickets are \$25 and available by calling (318) 357-5513 or by going to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/long-purple-line-induction-2020-tickets-94499647991>.

The Long Purple Line was created to provide recognition and appreciation to individuals whose career accomplishments or service to their fellow man have enhanced the reputation and prestige of Northwestern State.

Selection may be based upon past or continuing achievements in individuals' careers, exemplary

and extraordinary service to community, state and nation or both career accomplishments and service to mankind including service to their alma mater.

Only 136 of the university's 75,000 alumni have been inducted into the Long Purple Line since it was established in 1990.

Boutte has a broad range of experience spanning postsecondary financial aid for traditional and non-traditional populations, K-12, higher education, government and private industry. She has held several high-level positions in Louisiana state agencies. Since 2013, she has been executive director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance, managing an annual budget of almost \$400 million. Boutte provides oversight of statewide college access and financial aid initiatives aimed at promoting, preparing for and providing college access to students and families including the Taylor Opportunity for Students Program (TOPS) and the Louisiana Go Grants. She previously served as the office's deputy executive director, chief operations officer and chief research and planning officer.

Boutte has served as assistant secretary of the Office of Workforce Development and workforce planning executive consultant with the Louisiana Department

of Environmental Quality. She was also an education instruction specialist for IBM.

At Northwestern State, Boutte was director and founder of the Technology Training Institute, director of the Office of Public Service and coordinator of non-credit continuing education.

She earned a bachelor's, master's specialist and doctorate at Northwestern State and was a supervising teacher at the NSU Laboratory Schools for 12 years. Boutte was named Natchitoches Parish Elementary School Teacher of the Year, the Natchitoches Kiwanis' Outstanding Young Educator and a Turner Broadcasting National Faculty Member.

Upon graduation from Northwestern State College, where he earned his bachelor's degree in accounting, Marcus moved to Monroe. In the summer of 1963, he began his career in public accounting with a local CPA firm. After working for that firm for seven years, he opened his practice in 1970. After about 10 years, he partnered with fellow Northwestern State alumnus John Robinson to form Marcus, Robinson and Hassell which has offices in Monroe and Winnsboro.

Marcus has been involved in a number of successful business ventures throughout Louisiana and Arkansas which include healthcare

companies, restaurants, commercial and residential development and management.

Marcus has supported NSU for decades and has served on numerous boards and committees that enhance the university, including the NSU Foundation Board, The Mary R. Gallaspy Trust No. 2 Board and the College of Business and Technology Advisory Board. He has also been honored as a member of the NSU College of Business Hall of Fame.

Marcus is active in state and national professional organizations, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants. In 2019, he received the certificate of recognition for 50-years loyal membership in the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants

He has supported and donated to countless athletic and academic programs at NSU over the years, including establishing a faculty endowed professorship, and joined NSU alumni Bill Tilley, Bill Stokes and Joe Singletary in establishing a four-year endowed scholarship through the NSU Foundation.

Orgeron led LSU to the College Football Playoff title and a 15-0 record this past season. He was named National Coach of the Year by Walter Camp, Eddie Robinson and the Associated Press. He was also selected as the SEC Coach of the Year.

Orgeron's staff and team included the winner of the 2019 Broyles Award as nation's top assistant coach, the Heisman Trophy winner, winner of the Biletnikoff Award given to the outstanding receiver and the Jim Thorpe Award presented to the top defensive back. LSU set a school-record with five first team All-America selections in 2019. LSU's offensive line claimed the Joe Moore Award as the top offensive line in college football.

Orgeron is LSU's 33rd head football coach, and the first Louisiana native to serve as head coach of the Tigers in more than 30 years. Orgeron has a 40-9 record at LSU.

Orgeron was a defensive lineman for the NSU Demons and earned a degree in 1985. His coaching career began as a graduate assistant at Northwestern State and McNeese State. Orgeron was an assistant strength coach at Arkansas then worked as an

*See PURPLE, Page 4*



Virus

From Page 1

addressed the virus during its meeting at Northwestern State University on Feb. 28.

ULS President Dr. Jim Henderson said the system is preparing for any possible outbreak in the state.

He said ULS universities may need to house members from different schools in the event of an outbreak, comparing it to the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

Coronavirus is a respiratory virus. Some ways to avoid spreading said viruses include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed

- hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
  - Stay home when you are sick
  - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
  - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

The CDC has not yet identified an antiviral treatment for the coronavirus but said supportive care can be used to relieve symptoms.

Those with a high risk of catching the illness include those who have either traveled to and or encountered someone who has been to China or who have met someone with the virus.

As of now, no NSU study abroad programs have been cancelled due to the virus. Instead, Karen Walker, assistant professor of child and family

studies, had to change her class' trip to Ireland this semester due to low enrollment.

Weiwen Liao, assistant professor in the school of business, said a trip to China had been planned for the spring 2020 semester, but it was cancelled prior to the virus' outbreak.

Liao is from Changsha, Hunan Province, China. The province borders Hubei Province, which is where the epicenter of the coronavirus, Wuhan, is located.

Liao's family still resides in Hunan, including her father, brother and sister-in-law. Liao described conversations she had with former classmates on the social media platform WeChat.

She said some members of the group expressed dissatisfaction with the Chinese government's handling of the situation, while others were

encouraging. Her group's site was eventually shut down by WeChat due to the dissatisfaction, she said. Those of the group living in China were blocked from seeing any messages.

However, a new group was later formed and with many of the same members, she added.

Liao said Dr. Li Wenliang is the doctor famous for whistleblowing about the virus in its early stages.

Wenliang spread information about the virus over WeChat before he was eventually forced to sign a letter stating he would not attempt to divulge any more information, Liao said.

Liao said while Wenliang continued to work towards helping fight the virus, he caught the coronavirus and died on Feb. 7.

Water

From Page 1

sults and that they ran checks in accordance with EPA methodology.

To determine whether the lead and copper necessarily make the unfiltered water unsafe, however, Thibodeaux said additional testing for longer periods of time would be required.

"As of right now, all we can say is that there are higher levels of the metals," Thibodeaux said.

Thibodeaux said the potential side effects of lead in the water are high blood pressure, fatigue, memory loss, anemia, loss of appetite, sleep problems, kidney disfunction and consti-

pation. As for copper, Thibodeaux said the potential side effects are headaches, fever, blood in vomit, diarrhea, black feces and jaundice.

"We want to encourage students to use the filtered water fountains because they are effective at reducing metal contamination and limit potential exposure, which was the main finding of the study," Thibodeaux said.

Sarah Sargent, sophomore, said she can tell that there is a difference in the filtered drinking fountains on campus.

"I live in Columns apartments and will refuse to drink the water out of the sink," Sargent said. "The water

fountains on campus taste great. Just the sink water is undrinkable."

The classes participating in the water quality project are Chemistry 4950 and Biology 4950. Abigail Poe, senior biology major, said she and her lab partner have worked together on research projects with Dr. Thibodeaux for several years now.

Between reading methods on how to properly collect and preserve water samples to analyzing them, Poe said the project has been "a learning experience for sure."

Poe said she has faced both successes and setbacks but knowing the potential to make a difference on campus

makes the effort worth it. Julie Powell, director of university plant services and environmental health and safety officer, is excited that NSU chemistry and biology students are using their education to make a difference on campus. However, she cannot make a statement unless she knows the testing methods and results.

"I can say that if I may obtain a copy of the testing method and results, I would be more than happy to follow up on the levels if needed," Powell said.

Purple

From Page 3

assistant coach at Miami (Florida), Nicholls, Syracuse and Southern Cal, acquiring a reputation as one of the top defensive line coaches and recruiters in college football. He was head coach at the University of Mississippi for three years, then was on the staff of New Orleans Saints and the University of Tennessee before returning to Southern Cal. Orgeron joined the LSU coaching staff in 2015.

Recruited to Northwestern as an athletic trainer, Pierce was a four-year letterman in that position. He was an N Club officer and sports editor of the university newspaper. He joined the staff of The New Orleans Times-Picayune after receiving his journalism degree in 1961 and became executive sports editor at age 24.

Pierce returned to Northwestern in 1965 as Sports Information Director. He later served as News Bureau Director and assistant to the president and has been vice president of External Affairs for more than 30 years.

He was co-chair of Northwestern's Centennial celebration and 125th anniversary activities and has been the university's representative to the NCAA and Southland Conference. He is a former president of the conference. Pierce coordinates governmental affairs at NSU and was Northwestern's liaison for the filming of "Steel Magnolias."

Pierce brought the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame to Natchitoches in 1972 and directed the program for nearly 20 years. During that time, he was named one of the 20 "Most Influential People in Sports in Louisiana" by The Times-Picayune.

Author of thousands of newspaper and magazine articles and a book of columns and co-editor of books on the making of "Steel Magnolias" and the history of NSU, Pierce has received numerous journalism awards and other honors for civic, social and professional activities.

Inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and N Club Hall of Fame, Pierce was recognized this year as a donor to NSU for more than 20 consecutive years. He and his wife Regina have established endowed scholarships in athletics and education at the university.

Smith is president and chief executive officer of FedEx Freight, the market leader in the less-than-truckload (LTL) industry. He also serves on the Strategic Management Committee of FedEx Corporation, which sets the direction for the FedEx enterprise. FedEx Corporation employs more than 450,000 team members worldwide and uses nearly 700 airplanes and 189,000 motorized vehicles to deliver 15 million shipments every day in more than 220 countries. FedEx Corporation reported \$69 billion in revenue in Fiscal Year 2019.

Smith has more than 30 years of experience in the transportation

industry and joined FedEx in 2000. As CEO, he provides strategic direction for all FedEx Freight operations throughout North America.

Prior to his current role, Smith most recently served as the senior vice president of operations for FedEx Freight. His experience spans every area of the business, including operations, sales, transportation, fleet maintenance, facility services and safety.

Smith serves on the boards of the Arkansas Trucking Association and the American Transportation Research Institute and was named treasurer of the board for the American Trucking Associations in October 2019. He graduated from Northwestern State University with a degree in geology.

Smith was a four-year starter on the Demon football team as an offensive tackle. He was a two-time All-Louisiana selection and a pre-season All-Gulf Star Conference choice. He was the winner of the Demon Award given to the outstanding offensive lineman.

Whitehead was a member of Northwestern State's faculty for 30 years, serving as an associate professor of journalism and director of International Programs. He served as an advisor for various student media, providing training to students preparing for a professional career. He also oversaw the university's Distinguished Lecture Series, which brought numerous leading figures to campus.

A strong advocate for preserving Northwestern State's history, Whitehead co-authored the book "Northwestern State University at 125" which was published in 2009. He led efforts to make the university's past more accessible through its Traditions website, which showcases digital collections of the university's student newspaper, yearbook and alumni magazine and information on alumni honorees, past presidents and historic campus buildings.

Whitehead worked as a production location consultant for the film "Steel Magnolias." He also worked as a local contact and executive assistant to the film's producer Ray Stark. Whitehead was a co-author of the "Steel Magnolias Scrapbook."

One of the leading experts on Natchitoches Parish artist Clementine Hunter, Whitehead worked on documentaries and co-authored and edited books about Hunter.

He is active in local historic preservation organizations and served on the Louisiana Film and Video Commission, the board of directors of Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting and the national advisory council of Kappa Alpha Order social fraternity. He is a member of the National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the Honor Society of Phi Eta Sigma.

Since retiring from NSU, he was worked as a governmental affairs and special events consultant.



# A look into the setting of aspiring artists in every form

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living editor*

As a hub for aspiring artists of every variety, the School of Creative and Performing Arts cultivates a unique atmosphere throughout its connecting buildings.

CAPA's dynamic beams with electricity. Music notes soar throughout the building as musicians often practice in crooks of every corner available. Art students diligently work on everything from 3D statues to textiles.

Taylor Carrell, sophomore music education major, sits glistens in sunlight jotting down fingerings with his tuba in tow, preparing for an audition for a summer job.

"I've wanted to be a music major since junior high," Carrell said. "We get to practice basically anywhere. We have free range of CAPA area, and it is a pretty big deal."

Carrel notes that the dynamic is completely different than any other place he's experienced with so many different aspects of CAPA constantly at play.

"You have him up there playing tango," Carrel said. "Maybe you get



**Aspiring artists of every variety coexist in CAPA.** Photo by Brianna Corley.

a vocalist over there singing some nice Mozart. You're in the middle of that, and you get to experience the whole thing and learn from it that way."

Sidney Spinks, senior biology major, notices the specific atmosphere that CAPA cultivates, particularly when comparing it to Bienvenu Hall.

"Just walking from the two different buildings, it's like you're at a completely different campus,"

Spinks said.

Spinks always hears music filling the courtyard as she enters the ceramics lab and recalls the freedom of being able to come and go as needed to work on ceramics.

"You can have three people making statues, and there can be people in the back working with bronze," Spinks said. "Or people on the wheel throwing water bottles, everything."

Spinks feels it is similar to

Bienvenu with everyone working diligently on their separate projects at the same time.

"It's kind of like a beehive," Spinks said. "Everybody's just doing their own little thing."

Leslie Gruesbeck, associate professor of art and gallery coordinator, observes CAPA's interesting dynamic as she sits in a textile lab, helping a group of students untangle a knot for a senior's show that will transform into a cloak after work on the loom.

"It is really a nice sense of comradery," Gruesbeck said. "People stop by to ask what we're doing and talk to us about it."

Gruesbeck also recalls that musicians are respectful of times that others at work in CAPA sometimes require students quiet to focus.

"Personally, I like to work in this department and hear students working," Gruesbeck said. "Art students' processes are usually quiet."

With many different moving parts coexisting in the same environment, CAPA's atmosphere acts as a catalyst to encourage all of its students no matter their major.

## Color me surprised

### Tips on adding pops of color to your wardrobe



**Matching as many colors as possible is not an eyesore.** Photo by Chelsea Beasley.

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion columnist*

Spring is on the horizon and to me that means pastels, florals and a lots of candy. I've been trying to venture into dressing in colors that aren't muted tans, whites or blacks because I have been on a classic kick for a long time.

Dressing in pastels and florals is kind of hard for me, especially when most of my wardrobe is not that. Spring is here, and I need colors in my life. Midterms are coming up, and I need as much happiness in my life as possible.

There is nothing that excites me more than waking up to a slightly less cold day where I'm

able to wear shorts comfortably. My favorite look for this spring is color blocking, something that the public was extremely into almost three years ago. With flowers growing and ducklings hatching, spring becomes a time of wonder and fun, so let's show that in our looks.

Color blocking with pastels can simply be picking a shade of a color and sticking with it, going ham throughout the entire outfit. I also love color blocking with different colors that are all pastels.

Try throwing on white bottoms with a pastel top, and if you have pastel shoes that match, shove them on your feet. Matching as many colors as possible is not an

eyesore. It's a challenge that was meant to be accomplished.

I love color blocking in smaller ways such as throwing on a dress and matching a color in the dress to another aspect of my outfit. I love having the color be the focal piece of my outfit (when I do wear color). Having the color stand out can also keep your look feeling casual and cute.

Matching small accessories to your look can also tie it all in nicely, making a dress and sneakers seem like you took more time in the morning. Even the smallest pop of pastel can bring the outfit together.

Now let's try to bring out the sun so I don't freeze on the way to class!



# A breakup isn't the end of the world, I promise

**Samantha Clark**  
*Editor in chief*

Maybe you were blindsided. Maybe you knew there were problems but thought you could work through them. Maybe you saw the red flags and ignored them.

But it happened. You guys broke up, and now all you can do is listen to your sad music playlist and cry.

I need you to know that while your world may feel like it's crashing down right now, you will be okay.

A month ago I went through the messiest breakup I've ever experienced. Out of respect for him, I won't go into much detail about the breakup itself. But I promise you it wasn't easy.

For the next week or so I was crying, missing classes (don't recommend this) and just trying to put my life back together.

Add that to being a full-time student and running this paper, I felt like I couldn't breathe.

It's hard to accept that the relationship is over. While it may be easier to just look back at all the good times and wonder "what if," you can't do that.

Things ended for a reason. That's what you need to focus on.

Just because you two broke up doesn't mean you're a bad person. It doesn't make your ex a bad

person. Two good people can just not be good for each other and that's okay.

A breakup is painful. There are so many emotions involved, but you have to let all the pain exit your body in order for you to heal.

Make sure you have a support system to help pick you up again, whether it's friends, family or coworkers. I know I wouldn't be in as good of a place I'm in now if I didn't have them.

You had a life before your ex, and life will go on after your ex.

Dive back into your friendships that fell to the side. Throw yourself into your schoolwork. Hit the gym and get that post-breakup body you deserve (it's a real thing).

It's not going to be easy. I still can't listen to "Lover" because I'm too scared I'll start sobbing. Even though it's hard, you will come out much stronger and better by the end of it.

I know this may sound harsh, but it's called a breakup because it's broken. There's a great book with that same name by Amiira Ruotola and Greg Behrendt that will help you go through a breakup.

Just because the relationship was broken doesn't mean you are. Now go kick ass and be with someone who recognizes your true beauty and worth, even if that person is yourself.

# The virus gone viral

## Coronavirus shouldn't be the only disease in the media spotlight

**Finnley Plaster**  
*Circulation Manager*

Since early January, the coronavirus has been making headlines worldwide. It seems to be the news story that doesn't stop giving, whether it's what country or state has the latest reported case or how much money companies are losing because of it.

I think that as bad as the virus is, it is being severely overhyped and overpublicized.

I am certainly not saying that the coronavirus isn't a terrible tragedy. I certainly sympathize with much of China and east Asia who are struggling to contain the outbreak, but I do also believe that the virus is not nearly as catastrophic as the media proclaim it to be.

On Monday, the World Health Organization released a report that there are almost 89,000 confirmed cases globally and over 3,000 deaths. These seem like radically high numbers, but compared to those of the common flu going around right now, they pale in comparison.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that in conservative estimates that in this flu season, 32 million people became infected with influenza. This resulted in 310,000 hospitalizations and 18,000 deaths.

While influenza may not be as deadly as the coronavirus by percentages, it certainly is a

great cause for concern. I believe influenza is a much greater cause for concern than the coronavirus, merely by virtue of its infectivity.

There are global health crises going on around us all the time, and I don't believe it does justice to focus so heavily on just the one.

There are lots of preventative measures to ensure you don't fall ill this year. Washing your hands often, not touching your face, and getting plenty of sleep are all fantastic ways to help your immune system in the battle against microscopic foes.

Although they don't always stop you from becoming infected, vaccines definitely help too. If not to prevent, then they certainly reduce the severity.

I do believe that the sensationalism of the coronavirus only serves to cause anxiety in those who only see the headlines and act as the great clickbait of the month.

If the allocation of attention and resources put into publicizing about the coronavirus were put into other areas such as sexual, mental and drug-related health, the stigma around those areas could be broken down and progress could be made in those areas too.

The coronavirus is a very important worldwide issue being exploited by the media for clicks while they ignore other equally deadly epidemics because they are viewed as too mundane or too taboo to publicize.

# Satire: King cake babies - more than a decoration

**Keator Poleman**  
*Digital Editor*

You know their faces. You see their pain.

But every year, countless are left homeless and ignored.

Their cries for help fall on deaf ears as they helplessly brave the elements.

King cake babies are among the most abused food decorations in the country, second only to the birthday candle.

They are discarded indiscriminately on the sides of roads, dumpsters, alleyways and even restroom toilets.

But hope is not lost. With help from nonprofits like the Save

the King Cake Baby Foundation, millions of lonely king cake babies can find new homes.

For less than a cup of coffee, the Save the King Cake Baby Foundation is able to give a better life to these precious Mardi Gras infants.

With your donation of four easy payments of \$4.99, you can symbolically adopt a king cake baby and follow it on its journey from a rescue shelter to living atop a freshly made King Cake.

As a thank you, the Save the King Cake Baby Foundation will send you an autographed photo of a king cake baby, along with a 2020 the Save the King Cake Baby



*Submitted photo.*

Foundation calendar featuring some of the many babies saved with donations from people like you.

Call 1-800-KNG-BABY now and you too can make a difference.

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# Energy drinks are probably going to kill me, but I like them

**Leanna Coy**  
News editor

My opinion on energy drinks is somewhat a “do as I say, not as I do,” kind of situation. I know energy drinks can be bad for you if you drink too many, but I drink them anyway. I don’t personally have a problem with the drinks, but I do feel that if you’re going to drink them, you should be careful.

Up until college, I used to only be able to drink half a Red Bull at once. Any more and it would make me feel weird. Red Bull has 111 milligrams of caffeine per 12 fluid ounces, which isn’t even very much compared to other energy drinks. For example, Reign energy drinks have 300 milligrams per can.

To me, the scary part about

drinking so much caffeine is how you can build up such a tolerance to it. The US National Library of Medicine says that both your cardiovascular and central nervous system can build up a tolerance to caffeine.

I definitely feel like I have experienced this sensation. The first time I tried a drink from NexGen Natchitoches, the caffeine was so overpowering that I legitimately felt like I was drunk. I could feel my heart racing for a few hours, and I was so jittery I wasn’t thinking straight. However, by the third time I’d had one, it barely made me feel anything.

Even though your tolerance to caffeine can feel like it’s building

up, according to mayoclinic.org, it’s still only safe to drink up to 400 milligrams of caffeine per day. This means that even if you get used to drinking Reigns and feel like you can have more than one, it won’t be good for you. Too much caffeine can cause your heart to race and anxiety to worsen. In severe cases, caffeine has even sent people to the hospital.

Part of the reason I feel people should be cautious of how much caffeine they are intaking is because energy drinks have steadily been rising in popularity. I remember when Monster and Red Bull were the only main energy drinks, but now it seems like I see a new brand every time I go to the store. Even

Coca-Cola Co. recently released their own line of energy drinks.

As a college student, I believe it is especially important to be aware of these drinks. Energy drinks are marketed towards us because companies know many college students rely on the drinks to get to class or be able to study all night.

I don’t think energy drinks are some horrible product that should be banned, but I do believe consumers should be aware of what they are getting themselves into when drinking them. I think energy drinks are great as long as you know how they affect you personally and don’t go over the suggested amount of caffeine per day.

## Bri’s three picks of the week Song edition

**Brianna Corley**  
Arts and Living editor

Music has the unique ability to give off a sense of timeliness while still amplifying and representing the time of its release. Inspired by those golden oldies that paved the way for today’s music, these picks of the week are a look back at three of my favorite albums that ruled the 70s.

**“Physical Graffiti” - Led Zeppelin**

For every time a band has attempted to cover and ultimately botched “Stairway to Heaven,” another good Led Zeppelin song goes underappreciated. Led Zeppelin falls under the category of definitely heard of them before

with hits such “Immigrant Song” and “Black Dog” constantly featured in television and movies

For any fan who is looking to try out more of their music, “Physical Graffiti” is the perfect place to start. Released in 1975, “Physical Graffiti” encompasses the scope of Led Zeppelin’s range and their uncanny ability to cultivate an entirely different feeling and atmosphere in each individual song. Highlights of the album include the rock rooted “Custard Pie,” the uniquely funk rhythm “Trampled Under Foot” and the versatile ballad “Ten Years Gone.”

**“Animals” - Pink Floyd**

Much like Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd has retained incredible popularity throughout recent

years. There is rarely a time you venture out into public and don’t come across some wayward rocker wearing a “Dark Side of the Moon” T-shirt.

While I considered discussing the just as important and popular album “The Wall,” Pink Floyd’s 1977 release “Animals” accentuates the band’s tendency to theme their discography.

With the overall concept hailing from George Orwell’s “Animal Farm,” each song’s animal name is dictated to represent a different class in society. From the electric shrieking of “Pigs,” to “Sheep’s” careful message, “Animals” is the perfect album to let play uninterrupted on a long night drive.

**“You Don’t Mess Around with Jim” - Jim Croce**

Released only a year before Jim Croce’s death, “You Don’t Mess Around with Jim” hits particularly close to home. Jim Croce tragically passed away hours after giving his final performance at Prather Coliseum to a crowd of ecstatic Northwestern State University students.

Croce’s thoughtful songwriting and inventive characters are sure to be enticing to any lover of music. Aside from the titular track “You Don’t Mess Around with Jim,” the album offers the dreamy chorde “Time in a Bottle,” the grounded “Operator (That’s Not the Way It Feels)” and the soft rock classic “Hard Time Losin’ Man.”

### The Current Sauce

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# Howell's arm, Jones' bat lifts NSU to win at Grambling



Game Recap: Lady Demon Softball

**Matt Vines**  
Assistant Sports Information  
Director

GRAMBLING – Pitcher Jensen Howell just missed her first shutout as a Northwestern State member Tuesday, but Howell’s strong outing led the Lady Demons to a 3-1 win at Grambling.

Howell struck out a career-high 10 batters and held the Lady Tigers (3-11) to just two hits and one hit batter.

Both of those hits came in the fifth inning as Grambling manufactured a run.

“I felt pretty good the first part of the game, but when Grambling finally did get on, I wasn’t too happy about it,” Howell said. “But we got out of it, and I felt better

about the situation.”

Howell (6-3) has wins in four of her last five outings as NSU (12-7) has won six of its last eight games.

Junior Cayla Jones supplied the majority of the offense, accounting for both of NSU’s RBIs.

After Elise Vincent scored on a passed ball in the first inning, Jones knocked in Vincent in the third inning for a 2-0 lead.

Jones followed that with her second home run of the season, a deep ball to left center field, for the 3-0 edge.

“We grinded one out, and we got good pitching from the circle,” Pickett said. “It’s good to see Cayla Jones up there driving the ball and hitting for power.

“We hit some balls hard with people on base, but Grambling made some really good defensive

plays. I wish we would have had a little more consistency at the plate, and we let some at-bats slip away today. We’ve got to use count leverage a little better and approach it a little better.”

Jones batted 2-for-3 with the two RBIs, her third multi-RBI game of the season. Howell and Vincent produced NSU’s two other hits.

“It’s about being mentally in it and trusting my abilities, and I did that today,” Jones said. “It wasn’t very pretty. We didn’t do everything we wanted to do. But we focused on getting a win on the road.”

Grambling pitcher Ja’lynn Bonner surrendered just four hits with no walks in the circle.

NSU starts Southland Conference play Friday with a doubleheader against defending champion Sam Houston State.

GAME SCHEDULE

Softball

3/6/20 4 p.m.  
@Lady Demon  
Diamond  
vs. Sam Houston State

3/6/20 6 p.m  
@Lady Demon  
Diamond  
vs. Sam Houston State

3/7/20 1 p.m  
@Lady Demon  
Diamond  
vs. Sam Houston State

Women's  
Tennis

3/6/20 1 p.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady  
Demon Complex  
vs. Nicholls

3/8/20 11 a.m.  
@Jack Fisher Lady  
Demon Complex  
vs. New Orleans

Men's  
Basketball

3/4/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. New Orleans

3/7/20 3 p.m.  
@Conway, AR  
vs. Central Arkansas

Women's  
Basketball

3/4/20 7 p.m.  
@New Orleans, LA  
vs. New Orleans

3/7/20 1 p.m.  
@Conway, AR  
vs. Central Arkansas

Results of last week's schedule

Tennis

2/28/20 12 p.m.  
@Corpus Christi, TX  
vs. Texas A&M - Corpus Christi  
L 2-5

3/1/20 11 a.m.  
@Beaumont, TX  
vs. Lamar  
W 4-3

Softball

2/29/20 11:30 a.m.  
@Memphis, TN  
vs. Evansville  
W 13-3

3/1/20 9 a.m.  
@Memphis, TN  
vs. Northern Illinois  
W 4-3

Basketball

2/19/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Nicholls  
L 69-73

2/26/20 6:30 p.m.  
@Nacogdoches, TX  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
L 59-90

Women

2/19/20 6 p.m.  
@Thibodaux, LA  
vs. Nicholls  
L 66-73

2/26/20 1 p.m.  
@Prather Coliseum  
vs. Stephen F. Austin  
L 45-61





# NSU suspends foreign travel

## Three confirmed presumptive positive coronavirus cases in Louisiana



### Staff Reports

Northwestern State University has suspended all international travel for both faculty and students according to a statement from NSU President Dr. Chris Maggio on Tuesday.

It's one of the precautions NSU is taking to protect the university community from the coronavirus.

"The health and wellbeing of our students, faculty, and staff and campus visitors is paramount as NSU plans and prepares for all foreseeable contingencies of this rapidly evolving situation," Maggio said.

The university has not yet issued

a policy on domestic trips, but some domestic travel has been affected.

A planned conference trip this week to New York City for student media employees was cancelled Tuesday due to coronavirus concerns.

Staff members of the Current Sauce and Potpourri planned to attend the College Media Association Conference Wednesday through Saturday.

Kenneth Burns, student media coordinator, decided to cancel the trip.

"I was concerned about the students' health and mine and also about the risk of people here

getting infected if we brought the virus back," Burns said.

There are now three presumptive positive cases of coronavirus in Louisiana according to a statement Gov. John Bel Edwards issued Tuesday. All are in the New Orleans area.

"We know testing for COVID-19 is expanding this week as commercial labs come on board," Edwards said. "We expect to see more presumptive positives in the coming days and weeks and I am asking all Louisianans to remain vigilant as we work to contain the spread of this and other illness."

## On official NSU documents, students' names lack accents

**Madelyn Dupont**  
Marketing Director

Some Northwestern State University students with accents in their names have had their names spelled wrong in their email addresses, student IDs, diplomas and other documents sent by the university.

When the accent mark is not included in the spelling, it is technically misspelled.

The process of printing names begins in the admissions office. When a student registers to be a student, he or she submits their name to admissions. The One Card Office prints the name as it is shown. For diplomas, the student has the option to either type their name as they want it on the diploma or the registrar prints how

it is on their academic record.

The okina (the guttural stop) in alumnus Ka'ihe Fisher's name was never included in his email address, ID or diploma. Fisher explained that it changes the meaning of his name because it is no longer his name without the okina.

He said the accent in his name is important to the spelling of his name and his Hawaiian culture.

"I love my name, and it took me such a long time to have pride in it again after moving to the mainland," Fisher said. "I was made fun of it or I would make it easier for them because I wanted to 'be like everyone else' before realizing that just because I now live in the mainland does not mean I have to conform to its society, maintaining my Hawaiian demeanor."

A few students have faced the

same situation but have a different view.

Joaquín Espliguero Orts has an acute accent in his first name and has had the same problem with it not being included on his ID, email or documents. Although the accent is not included on his student ID or anything for the university, he has also expressed that his Spanish ID and passport do not include the accent either.

"I know that systems in the U.S. do not have the accent character, so it would be a problem if I try to write it in forms," Espliguero Orts says.

He said he does not think it is important and that it does not change how he feels about his name.

Similarly, freshman Mauricio Gamariel León López said he

understands that most people in the U.S. do not have accents in their first or last names.

"The first time that I see my papers I was like afraid because if in other places they tell me something about my name that isn't spelled right," López said. "Now that I know that there is no problem. It's OK to me."

López said he is not bothered by the missing accent mark in his name.

The One Card office can correct the names on IDs if the student brings his or her license showing the proper spelling of his or her name. Whether a student's name has a tilde, cedille, acute accent mark or okina, their name can be spelled correctly.



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce



@thecurrentsauce

### Quote of the Week

*"Wash your hands."*

Jacob Ellis, student body president

**3** Arts and Living: Doubt: A timely parable

**5** Viewpoints: Should we be scared of the coronavirus?

**8** Sports: The last round ends on the road



# Late student honored at SGA meeting

**Sadie LeComte**  
*Digital Editor*

The Student Government Association asks all members of the Northwestern State University community to remember the life of James Evans, an NSU student who died on Feb. 25 due to medical complications with epilepsy, by wearing purple on March 26 for International Purple Day, an international epilepsy awareness day.

SGA passed a resolution on this at their meeting Monday.

Evans was a theatre and dance major in the School of Creative and Performing Arts. He was 22 years old.

A memorial service for Evans is set for March 13 at Orville Hanchey Gallery at noon,

NSU First Lady Jennifer Maggio will host an open house at the Arnold J. Kilpatrick President’s Residence on March 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event marks the 50-year anniversary of the house. SGA will host a portrait

unveiling at the event. Student Body President Jacob Ellis reminded everyone to wash their hands as there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in the Jefferson Parish area in Louisiana.

In other news, Tyler Magnano, external affairs commissioner, said he has “perfected” the Demon Discount logo. It is pending approval.

A new website for SGA is “two points of information away” from being launched, Magnano said.

Magnano also added that V.L. Roy Service day registration will be sent out soon.

SGA will host Safe Spring Break on March 18 on the Kyser Brickway. Kristen Prejean, student affairs commissioner, said the university will provide defense training sessions at the event, and health services will hand out condoms.

Prejean said Demon Discount will launch “either this week or next week.”

Prejean also said she talked to

Sodexo Manager Steve Kauf about concerns over workers giving away unclaimed products to customers. Kauf said he will need to know dates and times of incidents to look over surveillance footage.

Speaker of the Senate Nicholas Hopkins said Mayor Lee Posey will speak at Monday’s meeting ahead of the candidate forum on March 19. The forum will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Ora G. Williams Digital Media Center in Kyser Hall.

SGA does not directly contact candidates to speak at their meetings.

Carolyn Huntoon will speak at NSU on March 31 in Magale Recital Hall.

The Senate will vote on a resolution congratulating Dr. Marcus Jones on his new position in the University of Louisiana System and honoring him for his service to NSU. The resolution is tabled until their next meeting.

Ellis nominated Darrin Nixon to the Club Sports Committee. The

Senate approved his nomination. SGA voted to approve Haleigh Gates for Potpourri Editor-in-Chief.

Treasurer and Fiscal Affairs Commissioner Elizabeth Coleman released the budget. It stands at:

- SGA - \$44,448.39
- ORF- \$13,455
- Speaker - \$59,787

When asked about the empty space in the union where the old bookstore use to be, Ellis said the space will be divided into two sections.

The section closest to the road will be a multi-purpose space with a similar layout to the Freidman Student Union Ballroom. An e-sports arena is being added to the other section, and there are plans are set to have an intramural e-sports team.

Ellis said the multi-purpose area should be completed by the end of this semester.

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	<div><div>2/18/20</div><div>Runaway Juvenile</div><div>Fornet Hall</div></div>	<div><div>2/26/20</div><div>Theft</div><div>University Place 2</div></div>	<div><div>3/05/20</div><div>Attempted Vehicle Burglary</div><div>Varnado Parking</div></div>
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<div><div>2/17/20</div><div>Burglary</div><div>University Place 1</div></div>	<div><div>2/21/20</div><div>Burglary</div><div>University Place 1</div></div>	<div><div>3/03/20</div><div>Property Damage</div><div>Soccer Field</div></div>	<div><div>3/07/20</div><div>Drug Law Violation</div><div>University Columns</div></div>
<div><div>2/17/20</div><div>Property Damage</div><div>Parking Lot 25</div></div>	<div><div>2/23/20</div><div>Hit and Run</div><div>University Columns</div></div>	<div><div>3/04/20</div><div>Drug Law Violations</div><div>University Columns</div></div>	<div><div>3/08/20</div><div>Hit and Run</div><div>University Columns</div></div>
<div><div>2/18/20</div><div>Protective Order Violation</div><div>University Columns</div></div>	<div><div>2/25/20</div><div>Burglary</div><div>University Place 2</div></div>	<div><div>3/04/20</div><div>Disturbance</div><div>Watson Library</div></div>	



# On-trend on Keyser

## NSU graduate opens boutique

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

Let's check out what's happening to the fashion world of Natchitoches!

Natchitoches is no stranger to boutiques, with those little shops etched into our streets becoming overlooked, but Lou Lou's Boutique is here to stand out.

Lou Lou's Boutique opened on March 2 at 242 Keyser Avenue, yet they are already out here doing the actual most and striving to be unique. And, boy, are they unique. Setting up shop where Lux, another boutique, used to be, Lou Lou's is here to provide Natchitoches with the latest trends.

It all starts with the owner, Samantha Dewitt. Dewitt is a Northwestern State University graduate with an education degree, but that did not stop her from expanding her dreams and getting into the boutique business.

"I've had boutiques for the last nine years, so I decided it was time to open up here," Dewitt said.

Dewitt also said that she plans to expand to Ruston after setting up shop here.

When it comes to inspiration for



**Setting up shop where Lux, another boutique, used to be, Lou Lou's is here to provide Natchitoches with the latest trends. Photo by Mary Gaffney.**

style, Dewitt has very particular tastes and always keeps up with the latest trends.

"Over the years I've developed a more higher end, exclusive style," Dewitt said.

Dewitt isn't someone who wants what other people have, so she makes it her goal to go above and beyond, keeping her boutique fresh and unique.

"All of our brands, no one can have in a 60-mile radius," Dewitt said.

She stressed the importance of exclusivity in her store, saying that

"we only have six of everything" to keep Natchitoches from looking too similar.

Lou Lou's also gets inventory shipments about four to five times a week to keep the shop looking full and inviting.

Dewitt said that she "always likes to have the latest fashion." When it comes to her style, she finds inspiration in the latest fashions and said she even "updates [her] whole closet once a year" (which just happens to be an entire room used as a closet, so trust that your fashion needs are in good hands

with Dewitt).

Dewitt said that Lou Lou's "is dedicated to service." The boutique strives to help customers with whatever they need, making sure that the shopping process involves as little stress as possible. This comes with the atmosphere, especially since Lou Lou's "serves Champagne every day and will have catered food once a week," Dewitt said.

The friendly and inviting atmosphere truly helps make Lou Lou's one of a kind to Natchitoches. Lou Lou's makes shopping easier with a flat rate of \$5 shipping once their website goes live. Unlike any other boutique before, Lou Lou's delivers to you, wherever you are in Natchitoches.

Lou Lou's is dedicated to their customers and helping them find unique pieces that will last a long time. Although the prices can be steep, Dewitt ensures that what she produces is of high value and great quality. Starting soon, there will be student discounts on Thursdays, giving students 10% off.

After all, Dewitt is just another Demon like us, hoping to change the world one happy customer at a time.

# Doubt: A timely parable

## CAPA aims to capture audience with questioning the truth

**Lora Leigh Luquet**

*Reporter*

A play with a simple set up and a cast of four, "Doubt: A Parable" has a major underlying message that speaks for itself: Is it safer to be ignorant or to pursue your gut feeling and dig up the truth, no matter how ugly?

Set in the fall of 1964, "Doubt" follows a nun working at a church school and how she reacts in the face of possible misconduct involving her coworkers.

"Doubt" features a cast of complex characters with conflicting perspectives. It explores human imperfection and corruption within the church as well as how people deal with feelings of skepticism and indecision.

The play, first produced in 2004,

will debut in Theatre West on Wednesday. Director Scott Burrell has been interested in this script for a long time. He hopes that the message will not be lost on the audience and leaves a lasting impression.

"It was just time for me to do it because of the way things were aligning," Burrell said. "The message in the play is certainly timely and relevant to what's going on in society right now."

Sidney Gilder, senior who's playing Sister James, stresses the importance of the title and how deeply rooted it is in the plot of the play.

"As cheesy as it sounds, it is about having doubt," Gilder said. "You think you're so sure about your beliefs, that this means this

and it's the endgame, but nothing is perfect."

Rochanee Myles, junior, has found difficulty in preparation for the show's opening but maintains her excitement and pride in the work the cast and crew have done.

"It's been so much fun," Myles, who plays Mrs. Muller, said. "Don't get me wrong, this is my first production here. For me, it's been kind of stressful. But at the same time, it's awesome, like wow, this is finally happening."

Dania Hunter, junior, finds that the difficulty lies in playing a character with life experience she does not have. Since "Doubt" is set in the sixties and her character, Sister Aloysius, is significantly older than her, Hunter has faced obstacles in fully understanding

her character.

"There is a depth to Aloysius that I don't think I will understand until much later in life," Hunter said. "She has lived so much. She was born around the turn of the century, so she has been through World War I, World War II, the Great Depression. I don't have the perspective that she does, so that has been a challenge."

"Doubt: A Parable" will be performed in Theatre West on March 11-14 and 17-20 at 7:30 p.m. and March 15 at 2 p.m. Adults tickets cost \$15, and children's and senior's tickets cost \$12. All Northwestern State University, Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts and Bossier Parish Community College students will be admitted free with a current student ID.



# The price of betterment

## Who's paying for Louisiana's higher education?

**Brianna Corley**

*Arts and Living Editor*

The recent surge in registration fees at NSU has brought forward a resurgence in understanding the cost of higher education, especially in Louisiana.

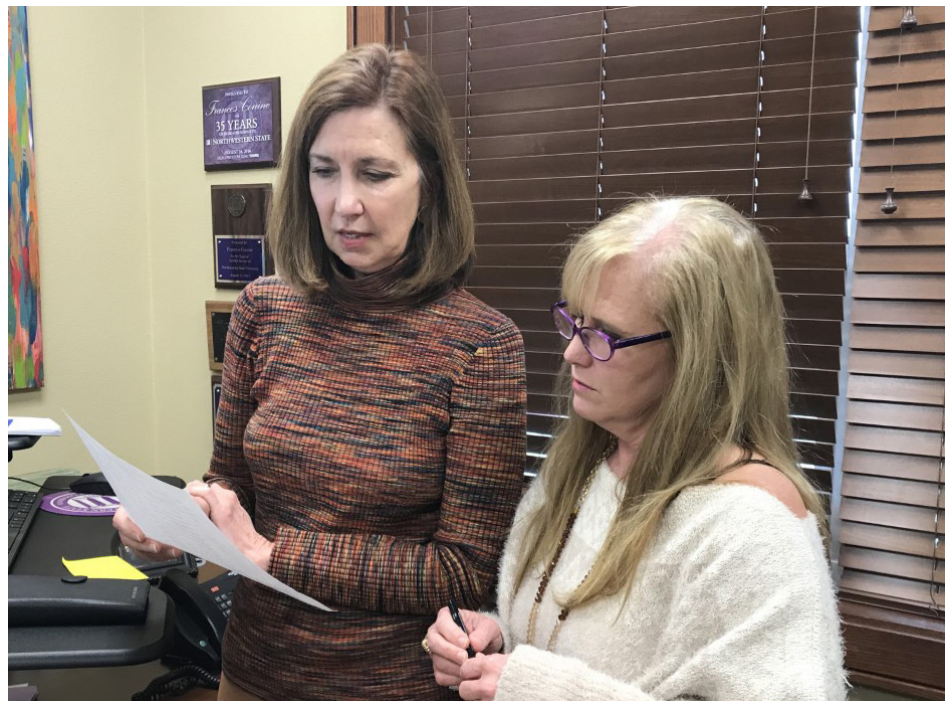
With constant dread surrounding funding for TOPS and beyond, higher education is a balancing act with an ever-echoing question which touches every aspect of the state.

If the state is not paying the brunt of higher education, who is?

"Louisiana, among other southern states, have this tradition of people who are not college educated," Frances Conine, dean of students, said. "We want more people to go to college."

According to Conine, NSU is very aware of the large demographic of first-generation and Pell-Grant-eligible students aiming for betterment though higher education.

"20 to 25 years ago the state paid about 75% of what it costs for a student to be educated at an institution of higher ed," Conine



**Frances Conine Dean of Students (left) and Jana Lucky Director of Enrollment Management (right) believe that the hardships have caused NSU to be more driven towards their goals. Photo by Brianna Corley.**

said. "That's flipped flopped now. Now the state is paying about 25%, and the institution or the student has to pay."

Conine noted the importance of finding scholarships to help students in their struggle for higher education due to the severe decline

in reliance on state funding.

"We struggle to find money to help students go to school," Conine said. "We struggle to have viable programs."

Conine is hopeful with the stability in recent years with Louisiana's education. There are still adversities that result from keeping up with mandates and competing with other schools for students and faculty.

Jana Lucky, director of enrollment management, also believes that the hardships have caused NSU to be more driven towards goals and come together. She recounted the decision made by NSU four years ago after TOPS was cut by 41.08% to fund students as a university in TOPS' place for that upcoming semester.

"I've heard them talk about that they felt that was a promise the state had made to the student, and it wasn't fair for the student," Lucky said. "It was important, and I think Northwestern in general

*See HIGHER ED, Page 5*

# Spring on the florals

**Mary Gaffney**

*Fashion Columnist*

Y'all, I can't tell you how excited I was for actual spring weather. My heart was soaring like a little hummingbird off to find nectar until everything came crashing down with the thunder and lightning.

I'm still feeling the spring time vibes, so I will not back down from my spring time wear. To me, this is war. I will bring out the sun by force if I have to, and dressing in light colors will definitely spring you back to life.

With the colder weather we might have to alter our outfits a bit though, so try layering.

There is nothing that screams spring more than florals, and even if you incorporate them in a subtle way, you will still be feeling those spring time butterflies everywhere you go. Florals in spring are timeless.

I love to take my floral dresses

and pair them with thicker outer layers, just so when it does eventually get too hot in Kyser Hall or too cold in the Friedman Student Union, I will be prepared for it. I also enjoy pairing a more feminine piece with a masculine one to create an interesting juxtaposition for the look.

If you're afraid of wearing too much color, try combining different textures. Corduroy shorts, suede heels, and lace details are all easy ways to add that pop of spring joy in your wardrobe. I am a sucker for anything corduroy at the moment, so whatever piece I find, I buy.

Corduroy jackets are a nice in between of being lightweight and warm at the same time. It helps you look cozy without sweating to death on the way to class or on a Walmart run.

Neutral pops of texture don't overcrowd your outfit while creating dimension that was lacking. I love to throw my corduroy jacket over a classic spring piece, pairing it with

my Dr. Martens to give the look a little bit of edge. Try throwing on a relatively neutral piece and pairing it with something textured.

I love the look of denim jumpsuits or overalls. There is nothing more comfortable than wearing loose overalls and a lace bralette. Combine textures and see how many outfits you can create.

Accessorizing in the easiest way to add more texture to a look. I have been utterly obsessed with pearls this year and have been wearing them every chance I get (which is literally every day).

I love to layer up necklaces to give my neck more detail and show off my collarbone to the world since I'm not blessed in the cleavage area. (Say it with me folks: collarbones, shoulders and backs can be sexy too).

Giving more texture and dimension to an outfit can elevate any look. Go forth and frolic in the halls, living out your best spring life!



**Florals in spring are timeless. Photo by Emily Talbot.**



# Demon Debate

## Should we actually be scared of the coronavirus?

*The coronavirus has taken the world, especially the media, by storm. NSU implemented a university international travel suspension Tuesday. Is the coronavirus as big of a deal as the media makes it out to be?*

### Coronavirus is overhyped in the media

**Lauren Briscoe**  
NSU Student

In today's society, the power of the media is undeniable. Many take what is found in the media to be true, despite very little research.

One of the newest issues taking the media by storm is the coronavirus. Since the first case was confirmed in Wuhan, China,

countries have been taken by storm with panic.

International travel is now questionable, Chinese buffets are struggling and hand sanitizer is flying off shelves everywhere. Is this virus as scary as the media is making it out to be? Quite honestly, no.

According to a Feb. 5 article on

Forbes.com, 24,566 were infected, 493 died from the disease and 916 had recovered. With all these numbers, it is fair to assume that the virus is safer than the media portrays.

It is no surprise that this disease is being brought to the level of fear it has reached, though. If coronavirus were promoted as safer than what people think, individuals

would not take the threat of this disease seriously.

Coronavirus hysteria causes people to be uber health conscious. People are walking the streets with surgical quality masks and the musical festival Coachella is in talks of being postponed, all because of the power and fear generated through the media.

### Stop telling people to stop panicking

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor

One of the most annoying things about politics is that when something serious becomes a political discussion, everyone automatically discounts it as being serious. This is the case with the coronavirus.

Democratic politicians are severely criticizing President Donald Trump's performance while Republicans have called the entire thing a hoax. Stuck in the middle are American citizens who want to know whether they should

buy every roll of toilet paper left at Walmart.

To be completely fair, the administration's performance when faced with this pandemic has been startlingly bad. While I sincerely doubt the coronavirus will be killing everyone, calling it a hoax is probably one of the worst hot takes I've seen.

Despite misleading figures which have circulated on social media, COVID-19 certainly isn't comparable to the flu. It's much worse.

First, the flu has been around

for centuries. According to John Hopkins Medical Journal, we've all but become immune to the harshest symptoms of influenza. Further, we've developed vaccines that keep it pretty contained in most developed nations.

The mortality rate of the flu was less than 0.01% in 2019 according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Further, it is not very infectious. Someone infected with the flu spreads the virus to 1.3 people on average.

On the other hand, COVID-19 is not near as tame. So far, the mortality rate is estimated by some

to be as high as 4%. Amongst infected people older than age 65, the mortality rate is as high at 15%. This is compounded by the fact that the average infectee will transmit the virus to three other people.

There is also the fear of the unknown which factors into the caution of doctors and officials.

The coronavirus is much more dangerous and virulent than the flu to which it has been compared. While it might not be as deadly as Ebola or yellow fever, it most certainly is not "impeachment hoax 2.0" like some have tweeted.

### Higher ed

From Page 4

has been very in tune with what was the right thing to students for students."

Lucky stated that others have noted how NSU's faculty truly care and are invested in their students.

"Our staff are so genuinely interested in students' success and graduating students," Lucky said. "Watching them come in and then blinking and seeing them walking across the stage is something we all want, and I think it shows."

With a general decline in college graduates across the nation, Lucky discussed how Louisiana's main revenue is produced by technical jobs and oil rigs.

"I think the state is really pushing for more technical

workers, and that's another hurdle for us," Lucky said.

This is a fact reflected in the state's constitution.

"One of the things about Louisiana that people don't realize is in our constitution [...] things that are not protected are health and hospitable and higher education," Lucky said.

And while the universities of Louisiana and faculty have always understood and felt the effects of these decisions, Logan Turner, NSU graduate student Master of Science and Clinical Psychology, believes the increase of higher registration fees to be an eye-opening experience for students.

"In a perfect world I would like to think students feel Louisiana has their back and higher education has their back," Turner said. "We

don't really like to think about that because we're all students, and if we do it's because we're being made extremely aware of them."

Turner said that not many students take into consideration the extent of paying for college.

"There's a pressure, and a lot of students don't realize it," Turner said. "They don't realize where that pressure is really coming from. They just know it's there."

Turner regarded that laced between each book, registration fee and class there is another monetary gate to overcome.

"They will tell us, you know, like the Starbucks, that we helped fund that or that we helped fund the Chick-fil-A or the Steak 'n Shake," Turner said. "But they also don't tell you that you're funding the school to basically stay alive."

Turner believes NSU should be more transparent with their budget and fees and how they apply to the university at large.

"I just want NSU to do better for all of us," Turner said. "I know we can't change anything, and I know NSU has to go by the books of the budget that Louisiana gives them. If we can't give these students the opportunity to succeed, we might as well be labeled as a private school."

Despite the pressures and uncertainties which line their way, Turner has faith in his peers.

"I do think that a lot people who come from adversity want to better themselves," Turner said. "A lot of these students facing these adversities are going for a degree, and they are going to go for it whether someone tries to stop them or not."



# 'I am Sadie'

**Sadie LeComte**  
Digital Editor

I can hear my heart beating, thumping rapidly against my chest as I sit awkwardly across from this person I've known for less than a day.

My stomach churns and I begin to feel queasy. "I don't think I can through with this," I say to myself, unable to look her in the eyes.

My eyes dart towards her shoes. She has nice shoes. I think they're pumps.

Why do I keep looking at her shoes? She might look back, and then I'll feel more nauseous.

My body feels numb. I try to speak, but I can't form the words.

"Just go for it," I say, trying to encourage myself. "What's the worst that could happen?"

I should really stop saying that. "How long have you felt this way," she asks me. At least, that's what I think she's asking me.

It's been five years since the day I first came out to someone.

I felt awkward and helpless, worried about whether someone I knew would find out.

While my external coming out process is relatively new, I, like many like me, have struggled with accepting and coming out to myself for much longer.

I've experienced gender dysphoria since I was 6-years-old.

For most of my life I felt alone, afraid of telling others about what I was going through.

I knew my family wouldn't understand what I was going through, and my friends would



**After 18 years of hiding, I finally felt free. I finally felt like I was growing. Photo submitted.**

have laughed at me.

For years, I sat back, holding everything in. Depression and anxiety ate away at me.

It wasn't until I left for college that I saw a way for me to let my feelings out.

By speaking with counselors and letting them help me, I could finally let go of the hurt I had kept inside.

After 18 years of hiding, I finally felt free. I finally felt like I was growing.

And now, at 24, I feel more alive than ever.

I hardly recognize the person I was before coming out.

The person I once was, was scared and worried. They had little drive or passion.

I used to look over my shoulder, afraid of what would come next. Afraid of being outed and made fun of.

But now, after accepting my true self, I feel liberated and revised.

While the last decade was filled with heartache and despair, I can confidently say this new decade will be filled with hope and change.

This is me. I am Sadie.

**SGA**

From Page 2

For announcements, Ellis said the Cradle to College Pipeline school supply drive is ongoing. Those wishing to contribute may drop supplies off at the SGA office on the first floor of the Union.

Sen. Sheridan Douglas brought student concerns over advisers not emailing students back in a timely manner to the SGA's attention. The Senate discussed the issue, but no steps were taken beyond that.

## We're Hiring!

Looking for:

- Designers
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- Photographers



If interested email  
the Current Sauce at  
[thecurrentsauce@gmail.com](mailto:thecurrentsauce@gmail.com)

## I didn't come to college to make friends; I came for my degree

**Brianna Fife**  
Photo Editor

In fall 2017 I was dedicated to one goal: mine. I registered to attend Northwestern State University in fall 2018. I graduated from high school, and I was so excited to begin a new journey at NSU and get my degree in graphic design.

I have been at NSU for two years, and I have decided that I will transfer to University of Louisiana at Monroe for the fall 2020 semester. I made this decision because I learned that if I were to graduate from NSU I would not be prepared for my future pertaining to my career.

I have made wonderful friends

working on the yearbook staff, the Potpourri, and the newspaper staff, The Current Sauce. I have also made wonderful life long sisters in Alpha Omicron Pi. I have made a countless number of great friends and memories.

I would stay for my organizations and my friends, but I didn't come to college for the organizations or for the friends. I came for my degree.

Transferring is frowned upon by some, but don't let it get you down. I'm doing this to get my degree and to further my education. I'm doing what's best for myself. You can't let what others think or say get in the way of you prospering.

Transferring isn't a quick and easy decision. It takes some time to compare your options and decide what's best for you. I hadn't considered transferring until the end of Jan. when I had a conversation with a graduating senior about her degree in graphic design.

After much deliberation, I decided it was best for me to go to another college that would better suit my needs. I will miss every single one of my friends.

Shout out to Emily, Amari, Omari and Mickayla for making my last semester at NSU a good one.

And as always, Fork 'em Demons.





# Where's my Uber?

## No one should resort to drinking and driving to get home

**Thomas Celles**  
Viewpoints Editor

After a long night out drinking at the bar, people everywhere face the challenge of returning home. In most cases, the solution is planned out in advance. For others, they know they can rely on a night owl friend or call a cab if need be.

Still others make the decision to drive their vehicles while intoxicated. Of these, some do not make it home.

Since 2012, there have been a few other options to help you get to your destination safely, namely ridesharing companies such as Uber and Lyft. According to CNET.com, today there are several million drivers on both platforms.

Since launching online, these platforms have drastically reduced drunk driving incidents in areas where they are present and as much as several percent nationwide, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



[www.quotecatalog.com](http://www.quotecatalog.com).

At first glance, this sounds great. Ridesharing apps can't prevent drunk driving if the services aren't available.

This is showcased in states where Uber has only been recently rolled out due to political pressure,

like Wyoming in particular. Uber and Lyft have only been present in the state for just over a year. Correspondingly, Wyoming leads the nation in drunk driving incidents per capita.

NSU students and employees

and citizens of Natchitoches deserve a safe way to get home if they need it. When EZ-Ryder and Uber came to town, everyone was excited, but that didn't last.

I've checked the Uber app multiple times over the last several months, and the same result has popped up every time: no cars available.

Drinking and driving is never acceptable. However, a lot of students will rationalize it when they don't see another option available.

Dozens of times in my college career, I've seen people huddled around after the bar closes trying to figure out who is the "most sober," or only moderately drunk, so they can drive everyone home.

In small communities like ours, there needs to be a solution. The advent of ridesharing brought hope to our town that we would have a safe way to get home, and that hope was quickly crushed.



Northwestern State took advantage of Sam Houston State as the Lady Demons completed the sweep with an 8-0, five-inning win. Photo by China Brown.



The Lady Demons continued their home dominance at Lady Demon Diamond in league play after posting an 11-1 home record in 2019. Photo by China Brown.

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# The last round ends on the road



The Lady Demons Tennis team face the University of Central Arkansas Bears Saturday at the UCA Tennis Courts at 11 a.m. Photo by China Brown.

**Will Salinas**  
Sports Reporter

Halfway through the season, the Lady Demon Tennis team is sitting on a 10-4 record and looks to finish the season on a strong note.

The team holds a perfect record at the Jack Fisher Tennis Complex, with a home court record of 8-0, and plan to finish the final home games undefeated.

The team thinks they need to shift in gear and improve on the road as their away record is 2-4.

“The biggest difference competing on the road instead of performing at home is support,” NSU tennis player Emilija Dancetovic said. “We have great supporters, and the atmosphere at home is amazing.”

Even when the team loses, they still bond and come together to highlight obstacles such as games on the road.

“We do have room to improve on our ability to play on the road, which is obviously not as comfortable as our facility in which we practice each day,” head coach Patric DuBois said. “We are pleased with our effort and competitiveness every match. The wins will come on the road as we compete further into the season.”

The improvement on the road is needed as seven of the final 11 games are away with one game in a neutral zone against Grambling State University.

The Lady Demons are confident in their ability to play under pressure and learn from these tough losses.

One of the more notable wins of the season came from a back to back after losing to University of Louisiana at Lafayette and turning around the next day and beating the University of Houston in a close match that ended 4-3.

“I was very proud of the way our ladies came out and competed so well after a tough loss on the road at UH to pull out a close and tough win,” DuBois said.

These games will serve as learning experience for the team to utilize later down the line help them achieve their ultimate goals.

“Every match is different, so we can learn whether we win or lose,” Northwestern State University tennis player Ela Iwaniuk said. “I think the more we learn and analyze our previous matches, the better results we will accomplish in future matches.”

The Lady Demons and coach DuBois are ready to finish the second half of the season and compete for a Southland Conference Championship.

The Lady Demons Tennis team face the University of Central Arkansas Bears Saturday at the UCA Tennis Courts at 11 a.m.

## GAME SCHEDULE

### Softball

3/13/20 4 p.m. & 6 p.m.  
@Lady Demon Diamond  
vs. Lamar

3/14/20 1 p.m  
@Lady Demon Diamond  
vs. Lamar

### Women’s Tennis

3/14/20 11 a.m.  
@Conway, AR  
vs. Central Arkansas

3/17/20 1 p.m.  
@Ruston, LA  
vs. LA Tech

3/17/20 3:30 p.m.  
@Ruston, LA  
vs. Grambling

### Men’s Basketball

3/11/20 5 p.m.  
@Katy, TX  
vs. Texas A&M - Corpus Christi

3/12/20 - 3/15/20  
@Katy, TX  
Southland Conference Tournament

## Results of last week’s schedule

Tennis	3/6/20 1 p.m. @Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex vs. Nicholls W 6-1	Softball	3/6/20 4 p.m. @Lady Demon Diamond vs. Sam Houston State W 5-2	Basketball	3/4/20 6:30 p.m. @Prather Coliseum vs. UNO W 69-73	Men	3/4/20 7 p.m. @New Orleans, LA vs. UNO L 76-82
	3/8/20 11 a.m. @Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex vs. UNO W 6-1		3/7/20 1 p.m. @Lady Demon Diamond vs. Sam Houston State W 8-0		3/7/20 3 p.m. @Conway, AR vs. Central Arkansas W 100-85		3/7/20 1 p.m. @Conway, AR vs. Central Arkansas L 62-80
				Women			